

VISITING GREECE

A PRACTICAL GUIDE

WITH 200 PHOTOS



WHERE? WHAT? WHEN? HOW?

NATIONAL BANK OF GREECE

ADMINISTRATION AND HEAD OFFICE
86, EOLOU STREET (Cotzia Square), ATHENS

Offices and Branches IN GREECE:

A COMPLETE NET OF BRANCHES IN THE ATHENS
AND PIRAEUS AREA, AS WELL AS IN THE PROVINCES.

Visitors and Tourists

are cordially invited to the Bank's Office at:

8, ELEFTH. VENIZELOS AVENUE, NEAR SYNTAGMA SQUARE ATHENS

which is specially available to them daily, morning and afternoon.

ABROAD:

IN ENGLAND: L o n d o n — 6, Old Jewry, E.C.2

IN E G Y P T: Alexandria — 24, Chérif Pacha Street

C A I R O — 15, Talaat Harb Pacha Street

PORT SAID — Fuad 1st Street

IN CYPRUS:

NICOSIA, LIMASSOL, FAMAGUSTA

Affiliated Banks:

ATLANTIC BANK OF NEW YORK, NEW YORK

THE SOUTH AFRICAN BANK OF ATHENS Ltd.,

JOHANNESBURG - CAPE TOWN

CORRESPONDENTS ALL OVER THE WORLD



New BEA summer services

from ATHENS to:

★ LONDON	19 Services per week
★ ROME	11 Services per week
★ NICOSIA	8 Services per week
★ BEIRUT	5 Services per week
★ ISTANBUL	7 Services per week
★ MUNICH	2 Services per week
★ TELAVIV	4 Services per week
★ ZURICH	3 Services per week
★ MILAN	3 Services per week
★ BAHRAIN	2 Services per week
★ KWAIT	3 Services per week
★ DOHA	1 Service per week
★ DAMASCUS	1 Service per week

Before you travel anywhere in Europe ask to see the latest
BEA timetables and fares at your travel Agent or from
BEA 7, Mitropolis Street, Tel. 30-926 & 21-471



BRITISH EUROPEAN AIRWAYS

Europe's largest Viscount fleet

COMMERCIAL BANK OF GREECE

ESTABLISHED : 1907

HEAD OFFICE : ATHENS, Sophocles and Aeolou Str.

TEL. ADDRESS : "COMERZBANK,,



CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND GENERAL MANAGER :

PROF. STRATIS G. ANDREADIS

80 BRANCHES IN GREECE

2 BRANCHES IN EGYPT :

ALEXANDRIA (19 Cherif Str.) CAIRO (9 Cherifin Str.)

AT THE TOURIST'S DISPOSAL :

OUR SYNTAGMA BRANCH 2 - 4 El. Venizelou Ave.

Opposite the hotel «Grande Bretagne»

Open daily from 8.30 to 20.30 and on Sundays

and Holidays from 9 to 13.30

MAIN SHAREHOLDER OF THE FOLLOWING BANKS :

1. IONIAN & POPULAR BANK OF GREECE

ATHENS, Pasmazoglou Str. & El. Venizelou Ave.

2. THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF THE NEAR EAST LTD.

LONDON E. C. 3 : Bankside House, 107, Leadenhall Str.

CONTENTS

Your Friend - Introduction	..	.....	.....	6
General Information	..	.....	.....	7
Climate	.....	..	.....	8
Place Names	..	.....	.....	9
The Greek Language	..	.....	.....	10
Some essential Greek words	..	.....	.....	13
Greek History	..	.....	.....	16
Chronology	..	.....	.....	19
Greek Food & Cookery	..	.....	.....	20
Your Stay in Greece..	..	.....	.....	23
Athens	.....	..	.....	26
Where to stay when in Athens		.....	.....	28
What to see in Athens	..	.....	.....	31
The Acropolis and the Parthenon		.....	.....	33
The ancient Agora	..	.....	.....	38
Athens Museums	..	.....	.....	41
Map of Central Athens	..	.....	.....	44
Where to eat	..	.....	.....	54
Theatres and Amusements	..	.....	.....	58
Where and what to shop	..	.....	.....	60
Around Athens	..	.....	.....	63
The Saronic Gulf	..	.....	.....	66
Touring Greece	..	.....	.....	71
Motor Routes	..	.....	.....	77
The Peloponnesos	..	.....	.....	79
The mainland	..	.....	.....	97
Mount Athos	..	.....	.....	118
The North of Greece	..	.....	.....	121
The Isles of Greece	..	.....	.....	122
Aegean Cruises	..	.....	.....	125
The Dodecanese	..	.....	.....	128
Crete	.....	..	.....	132
The Aegean Islands	..	.....	.....	137
The Ionian Islands	..	.....	.....	147
Festivals and Feast Days	..	.....	.....	155
The Hotel Village	..	.....	.....	163

ILLUSTRATIONS

Photo.	Page	Photo	Page
1. Acropolis and Parthenon	6.	48. Chorus of Tragedy	58.
2. Phaistos hieroglyphics	11.	49. The Zappeion Hall	59.
3. Easter festivities	12.	50. Herodes Atticus theatre	60.
4. Epiros regional costume	12.	51. The little cathedral	61.
5. Thessaloniki races	12.	52. Kaisariani monastery	63.
6. Electrification works	17.	53. Daphni monastery	63.
7. Achelous dam	17.	54. Sounion temple	64.
8. Athens Academy	18.	55. Marathon dam	65.
9. Stadium and Acropolis	18.	56. Aegina	66.
10. Chalkis, Lucy Hotel	23.	57. Poros. The approach	67.
11. Rhodes. Elafos Hotel	24.	58. & 59. M/v. Neraida	67.
12. Rhodes. Hotel des Roses	25.	60. Hydra waterfront	68.
13. Acropolis from West	26.	61. Hydra. Sophia Loren	68.
14. Temple of Zeus. Athens	29.	62. Hydra	68.
15. H.M. King Paul	28.	63. Poros landing stage	69.
16. Athens. The Library	31.	64. Hydra. The Haven	69.
17. » . Arch of Hadrian	31.	65. Langadia village	70.
18. » . Lysikrates Mnt.	32.	66. Olympia. The Altis	70.
19. » . The Horologium	32.	67. Corinth canal	77.
20. » . The Parthenon	33.	68. Corinth. Temple	78.
21. » . The Parthenon	34.	69. Mycenae. Lion's Gate	79.
22. » . Dionysos Theatre	35.	70. Mycenae. Tombs	79.
23. » . Dionysos Theatre	35.	71. Nauplion	80.
24. » . The Caryatids	36.	72. Nauplion. Bourzi Isle	80.
25. » . Athena Nike temple	36.	73. Epidauros Theatre	81.
26. » . The Erechtheion	36.	74. Epidauros Stage	82.
27. » . The Propylaea	37.	75. & 76: Festival	82.
28. » . Stoa of Attalos	38.	77. Head of Hygieia	83.
29. » . Ostracism votes	39.	78. Taygetos range	84.
30. » . Nursery utensil	39.	79. & 80. Mistra	85.
31. » . The Hephaistion	40.	81. & 82. Monemvassia	85.
32. » . Stadium	41.	83. Andritsaina	87.
33. & 34 . Bas - reliefs	42.	84. Nestor's Palace	87.
35. Statue of Poseidon	47.	85. Cythera. Sea front	87.
36. » . of Paris	48.	86. Methone. Outer tower	87.
37. » . of Kouros	48.	87. Navarino church	88.
38. » . of Hermes	48.	88. Koroni castle	88.
39. & 40 . Vaphion gold cups	48.	89. Taygetos range	88.
41. Archaic Kore	49.	90. Patras wineries	90.
42. Victory with sandal	49.	91. Phigalia temple	90.
43. The Democracy Stele	50.	92. Calavryta	91.
44. El Greco icon	53.	93. Megaspoleon	91.
45. Cretan costume	53.	94. & 95. Kyllene	92.
46. Tourcolimano haven	54.	96 & 97. Olympia Flame	93.
47. Athens taverna	57.	98. Olympia. Cronion	93.

Photo	Page	Photo	Page
99. Hermes of Praxiteles	94.	148. Rhodes harbour	129.
100. Victory of Paionios	94.	149. Rhodes seafront	129.
101. Apollon's statue	94.	150. & 151. Lindos Acropolis	130.
102. Thebes road chapel	97.	152. Rhodes, The Castle	131.
103. Porto Germeno	97.	153. Phaistos, The theatre	132.
104. Livadia	98.	154. Knossos, The Bath	132.
105. Arachova	98.	155. & 156. Knossos Palace	135.
106. & 107. Ossios Loukas	99.	157. Iraklion, Old Font	134.
108. Delphi, Stadium	100.	158. Knossos Palace	135.
109. » Tholos	100.	159. Iraklion Blue Ladies	136.
110. » Theatre	100.	160. Knossos Throne	136.
111. » Treasure	101.	161. & 162. Cyclades Isles	138.
112. » Earth's Navel	101.	163. Santorini	139.
113. » Treasury	101.	164. Paros	140.
114. » Looking West	101.	165. Santorini	141.
115. » Caryatids	102.	166. Andros	141.
116. » The Charioteer	102.	167. Samos	142.
117. Naupactos harbour	103.	168. Skiathos	142.
118. Missolonghi boats	103.	167A Paros	143.
119. Parga	105.	168A Skyros	144.
120. Dodona	105.	169. Samos	144.
121. Arta bridge	106.	170. Cephalonia	147.
122. Yannina lake	106.	171. Cephalonia, Assos	148.
123. & 124 Perama Cave	108.	172. Corfu, Mouse Island	149.
125. Preveza	109.	173. Palaeocastrizza	151.
126. Chaeronia Lion	109.	174. Corfu, Old Street	151.
127. Pelion village	110.	175. Corfu, Esplanade	151.
128. Meteora monasteries	111.	176. Cephalonia, Mill	153.
129. & 130. Vale of Tempe	112.	177. » Lighthouse	153.
131. Castoria	113.	178. & 179. Costumes	154.
132. Mount Olympus	114.	180. Village transport	155.
133. Thessaloniki seafront	115.	181. & 182. Arachova	156.
134. » Egnatian Road	116.	183. & 184. Festivals	157.
135. » Vlatadon	116.	185. Feast day dancing	159.
136. » White Tower	116.	186. Wine Festival	159.
137. » The Fair.	117.	187. Corfu, Evzones	160.
138. Athos, Gregoriou	118.	188. Corfu, Cretans	160.
139. Athos Tower	119.	189. The National Hearth	163.
140. Athos, Panteleimon	119.	190. & 191. Their Majesties	164.
141. Athos, Stavronikita	119.	192. Alonissos	166.
142. Cavalla	120.	193. Lesbos, Yera Bay	166.
143. Ios Island	123.	194. & 195. Hotel Villages	167.
144. Corfu	123.	196. & 197. Pelion	168.
145. Myconos windmills	124.	198. Storks	169.
146. Andros	124.	199. & 200. Goura	170.
147. Rhodes, St. of Knights	128.	201. & 202. Seli	171.



1. The Parthenon crowns the Acropolis.

YOUR FRIEND

THE PURPOSE of this book is not to be that of a reference Guide Book, enumerating and cataloguing places of interest. It is intended for those who wish to spend a holiday, even a short one, in Greece, and want to see the country and how the people live. In some countries you may have friends whom you can consult, while in Greece you may have none, or none with the knowledge that you want. This small book aspires in some way to act as such a friend and answer your main questions, which you would be likely to put, and a little more besides.

On a holiday you do not want to pour laboriously over guide books, and thus the photos should help to give you an immediate first reply to your queries. The photos will also make the booklet an invaluable souvenir of what is hoped will have been a pleasant holiday. Importance has been attached to such information which may help give you the answer to how much time, and at what cost, a visit will take to any locality that may attract you. It also aims at setting out in a simple and immediate way what might be called a window dressing of the country's attractions, for you to choose.

An overall quick perusal of the book will show you that the answers to such questions you might want to ask a friend. Not only where to go and when and what to see, but what to eat, what to wear, what to tip etc. You will find all Greeks are hospitable.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Here are some answers to general questions other than travel, entrance and departure and customs formalities.

Water. Athens water is entirely safe, and water offered throughout the country at cafés is a safe risk.

Tips: In spite of the fact that in most places a percentage is added to the bill, normally of ten percent in cafés, you are still expected to tip. The normal is up to ten percent, and you also leave a drachma or two on tavern or restaurant, table, except in the best class hotels, for the boy who assists the waiter. Taxis expect only a small tip.

Taxis: The initial 4,50 Drachmas is an addition. If going out of town the driver asks at certain points which are considered the suburb boundaries, if you are returning. If not, the outward fare is thenceforth increased by 50%.

Letters: By air mail, the initial weight represents the envelope and two very thin air mail sheets. To the States it is 5 Drs and to most of Europe 3.50 Drs. About each additional two thin sheets is an increase of two Drs to the States and 0,50 to Europe. Mail takes 3-5 days by air to the States and 2-3 to the rest of Europe.

Telegrammes: If these are urgent, when in Athens take them to the head cable office at 85, Patissia st. It saves a 1/2 hr or more

Weights: The Oka, in universal use, is due to disappear. It is about 2.8 lbs. The kilo is 2.2 lbs.

Clubs In Athens there is a good Tennis Club, a Yachting Club at Castella, Piraeus, and a Golf Club, of nine holes, at Varibobi, 1/2 hr. by car. Members of known foreign clubs can become temporary members, or else an introduction from your Embassy will do.

The Automobile Club (E.L.P.A.) is at 16 Venizelos Street

Shops. Open and close at different times in winter and summer. Broadly in winter 8.30-13 and 16.30-19 hrs and in summer 8-13 and 17-19.30. Food stores close later. Shops close Wednesday afternoon.

Doctors and dentists are generally reliable and up to date.

Rate of Exchange. There is NO black market.

Evening Wear. Full evening wear is not normally worn, except at official functions and balls.

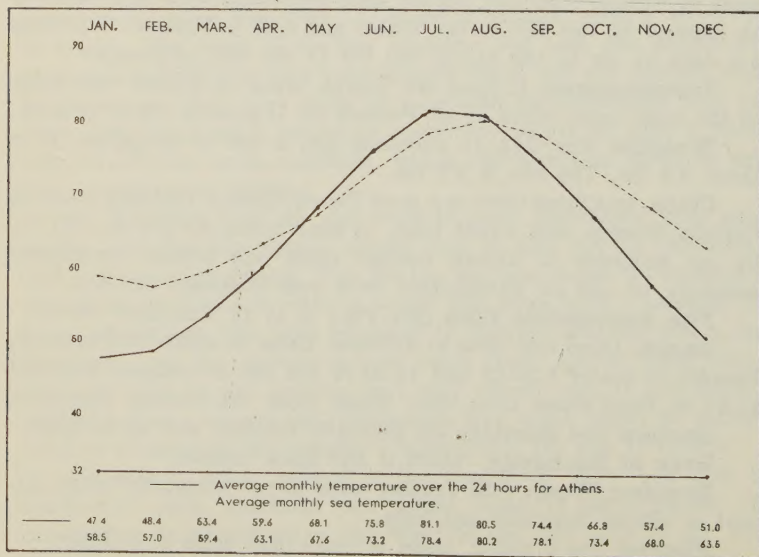
Photos: Use a meter, there is more light than you think.

CLIMATE

The climate in Greece is healthy, but differs a little in the various districts. Athens has a particularly dry climate, and its rainfall is less than half that of the West Coast. There is next to no rainfall from Mid-May to Mid-September. There is always sunshine. Over several years there has been an average of only 21 days in the year with no sunshine at all. In winter it can be fairly cold, but rarely bleak. It is much colder in Salonica and the North. Spring arrives earlier than in western Europe.

Warm weather can start towards the end of March, but real summer weather starts in May, and towards the middle of that month life in Greece is transformed. The indoor cinemas close and outdoor ones open and stay open till about the end of October. Almost all dine out of doors during the whole of summer.

In summer Athens can be hot, but not excessively so. Everyone takes a siesta in the afternoon, and the habit has spread to winter when a shorter one is taken by most. Close to the sea the heat is not noticed. In the islands of the Aegean summer breezes set in towards the middle of June.



PLACE NAMES

SPELLING AND PRONOUNCIATION

SPELLING of Greek name places in English is a problem being only gradually solved. The Greek Automobile and Touring Club has done a fine job erecting sign posts throughout the country, mostly, and sometimes only, in latin characters. It has adopted the principle of writing as the names are pronounced, but this is by no means an easy matter for it has to be able to answer to the pronunciation of various nationals.

Greek names are known in English through their latin version, but the National Tourist Organization tends to disregard this. It is appreciated however that just as the Frenchman may call the British capital "Londres" so the English speaking person will call the Greek capital "Athens" instead of "Athinai". It is thus usual to call the better known places in the tourists agents' guide books by their anglicized names such as Corinth, or Thebes, instead of "Korinthos" and "Thivai". Likewise the chief City of Northern Greece is called "Salonica" instead of "Thessaloniki". The main peculiarity of anglicising through Latin is that words ending in -os, are changed to us, and ai becomes ae. Mt. Olympos thus appears in English as Mt. Olympus. Another peculiarity is to use a "c" which does not exist in Greek. Enkyklopaidia is thus written encyclopædia.

In Greek the third letter of the alphabet is more liquid than guttural and this causes complications. The old style Aegina is now written Aighina, but unfortunately there is not as yet any complete consistency. Agios, which means Saint, should thus be written as Aghios, frequently is written as Ayos, intended to be pronounced A-yos and not Ay-os. Ydhra is written Hydra or Hydhra although the "H" is not pronounced. In order to show that the Greek Delta is not entirely dental, but like the "th" in then, Delphi and Delos are written Dhelfi and Dhilos, but in the case of Dhaphni it is often allowed to retain its "ph".

The present policy of the National Tourist Organization is obviously correct, for the tourist who wishes to ask the way must do so in a manner that might hope to be understood. It is no use asking a Greek peasant the way to Eleusis, or Germanically to Eloisis, when the Greek will only understand Elefsis. Fortunately reason and practical considerations are deciding the issue.

THE GREEK LANGUAGE

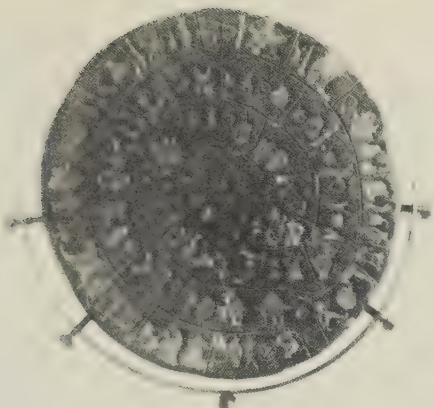
Even if you are going to stay only a very short while in Greece it is worth learning how to read Greek. You will then be astonished to find how many words you can understand, because so many words in English are derived from Greek.

Ancient and Modern Greek.

How does modern Greek compare with ancient Greek? It might be said, with some degree of accurate comparison, that Homeric Greek is like Chaucer to modern English, while most of the classical Greek writers compare more to the way Spencer compares to our present language. The Greek in which the new Testament was written might be comparable to modern Greek as Shakespeare is to modern English. The Bible Greek is read in the Churches, unchanged, and understood by all. There is, however, a complication. There is a feeling in Greece that it is not right for the language to remain static and in the last generation or two the vernacular has so developed that modern Greek, as it is spoken, is almost beginning to bear the relationship of Italian to Latin. A foreign student who has learnt ancient Greek should none the less be able to make some sense of the headlines of the newspapers.

The Greek Alphabet.

The Greek alphabet, consisting of 24 letters has not changed. Especially in the capitals some of the English letters are the same as the Greek. You will not have to learn the following: A, B, E, Z, I, K, M, N, O, T and Y. Remember, however, that B is pronounced as V. There are three difficult letters, namely H, P, and X, which are different to the corresponding English ones, for they represent firstly eeta pronounced, 'ee' or 'i'. The second is R and the third is CH, pronounced like the Scotch 'h'. The Greek for P is written 'Π' and the Greek X is written 'Ξ'. Of the remaining eight letters some should be easy to remember. The Greek D, known as Delta, and written 'Δ', is basically the same except that in the English version the right side has got rounded. The English S likewise is basically a rounding of the Greek 'sigma' written 'Σ'. The capital 'L' can be remembered by the fact that the shape is nearly the same, but on its side, thus 'Λ'. Of the remaining five letters there is Omega, which is a variation of O having a line underneath it 'Ω' and pronounced the same. The third letter Γ takes the place of G



2. Museum of Iraklion. The hieroglyphic disc of Phaistos.

being however more liquid than guttural. Then there are three letters Θ, Φ, Ψ, which we come across in hundreds of English words derived from the Greek. The first Θ is theta, or TH which we get in the Greek word 'theatre', the second is Φ or PH which we get in the telephone; and the last Ψ is psi, or ps as in psychology. Here are the last three words written in Greek: ΘΕΑΤΡΟΝ, ΤΗΛΕΦΩΝΟΝ, and ΨΥΧΟΛΟΓΙΑ. You will note that there are more letters resembling than otherwise, and also that when you have deciphered the letters you do not know and can read the words, you can not fail to know the meanings.

Here is the Greek alphabet, in Capitals, ordinary and equivalent. A, B, Γ, Δ, E, Z, H, Θ, I, K, Λ, M, N, Ξ, O, Π, P, Σ, T, Υ, Φ, X, Ψ, Ω. α, β, γ, δ, ε, ζ, η, θ, ι, κ, λ, μ, ν, ξ, ο, π, ρ, σ, τ, υ, φ, χ, ψ, ω. A, V, G, D, E, Z, I, TH, I, K, L, M, N, X, O, P, R, S, T, Y, PH, CH, PS, O.

Pronunciation is more difficult, which makes Greek difficult to write. First of all the letters ε, η, and υ (I, H and Y) are pronounced exactly the same as the English i., while the diphthongs ει, οι, υι (EI, OI and YI) are also the same. The letter ε (E) and the diphthong αι (AI) are both the same like the short e in get. Ου (OY) is pronounced oo as in true, while αυ (AY) and ευ (EY) are pronounced af and ef. ΝΤ and ΜΠ are used for D and B.



3. The Mainland. Easter. Boys will be boys.



4. Epiros regional costume.



5. Thessaloniki races.

SOME ESSENTIAL GREEK WORDS

Note: The accent indicates the stress of pronunciation.

GENERAL VOCABULARY

Yes	nai
Yes indeed	málista
No	óhi
Mister	kýrios
Mrs.	kyríá
Miss	dhespinís
Thank you	efharistò
Please	parakalò
Come	éla
Come (pl.)	elátai
Here	edhò
There	ekí
How?	pòs;
Are you?	íste;
How much?	póso;
It costs	kostízi
Good morning	kaliméra
Good evening	kalispéra
Good day	haĩretai
Good bye	»
Good	kalòs (m)
	kalí (f)
	kalò (n)
Bad	kakòs-i-o
Small	mikròs-i-o
Big	megálos-i-o
Far, long	makrí
Near, short	kontòs-i-o
Good!	kalà
Very good	polí kalà
O.K.	en táxi
Take care	prosohí
Where?	pou;
Is, are	íne

When	póte
How	pos
A, an, one	M: o: F: i, N: to
I want	thélo
We want	thélomen
I have	ého
We have	éhomen
Bring me	fére moo
Letter	grámma
Stamp	grammatósimo
Post office	tahidhromío
Telegramme	tilegráfima
Post card	dheltáριο
The house	to spíti
Doctor	iatròs
Dentist	odhondoiatròs
Ill	árostos
Sun	ílios
Rain	vrohí
TRAVEL	
Motorcar	aftokínito
Bus	leofórío
Train	traĩno
Steamship	vapóri
It goes (dept.)	févghi
It arrives	ftháni
At the	sto
Station	stathmò
What time?	ti óra
Does it go	pái
The hour	i óra
Minutes	leftà
To (motion)	iss
From	apò
Church	ekklissía

At the Restaurant.

Apple	mílo	Melon	pepóni
Beans	fasólia	" , water	karpóözi
Biscuits	biscóta	Menu	katáloghc
Bottle	botília	Milk	ghála
Bread	psomí	Oil	ládhi
Butter	vóötiro	Omelette	omelétta
Cake	kéik	On skewer	sóovla
Chair	karékla	Orange	portokáli
Cheese	tyrí	Oven, in	foorno
Chicken	poolí	Pastry	pástess
Coffee	kafāi	Pay, I	pliróno
Cup	filtzáni	Pear	achládhi
Cutlet	kotolétta	Pepper	pipéri
Egg	avghò	Plate	piáto
"fried	tighanitò	Pork	hirinò
"boiled	vrastò	Prawns	gharidhess
" "soft	meláto	Rice	rízi
" "hard	sfihto	Salad	saláta
Entrecote	antrkót	Salt	aláti
Figs	síka	Sardine	sardhela
Fish	psári	Sauce	sálsa
Fork	piróoni	Soup	sóopa
Fruit	fróota	Soon	kootáli
Glass	potíri	Steak	brizóla
Grappes	stafília	Sugar	záhari
Greens	hórta	Sweet	ghlikò
Hot	zestò	Sweets	ghlikà
Ice	págho	Table	trapézi
Ice cream	paghotò	Tea	tsái
Ice, (Water)	ghraníta	Tomato	tomáta
Knife	mahāiri	Turkey	ghálo
Lamb	arní	Veal	vidhélo
Lemon	lemóni	• Calf	moshári
Lettuce	maróoli	Vinegar	xýdhi
Liver	sikóti	Water	nerò
Lobster	astakò	Waiter	garsòn
Meat	krāias	Wine	krassí

Hotel	xenodhoh:o	One	ena (m), mia (f)
Bed	kreváti	Two	dhío
" sheet	sendóni	Three	tría
clean	katharò	Four	téssara
Cold	kriò	Five	péntai
Day	iméra	Six	éxi
Dirty	vrómiko	Seveu	épta
Evening	vrádhì	Eight	ócto
Night	níhta	Nime	ennéa
		Ten	dhéka
Quickly	ghrìghora	Eleven	éndheka
Soap	sapōni	Twelve	dhódheka
Towel	petséta	Thirteen	dhéka tria
With	mai	Twenty	íkosi
Without	horís	Thirty	triánta
Today	símera	Forty	saránta
Tomorrow	ávrión	Pifty	penínta
Yesterday	hthess	Sixty	exínta
This year	efétos	Seventy	evdhomínda
Next year	too hrónoo	Eighty	ogdhónta
Sunday	Kyriakí	Ninety	ekató
Monday	dheftéra	Thousand	hília
Tuesday	tríti	Million	ekatomírio
Wednesday	tetárti	Colours	hrómata
Thursday	pémpiti	Black	mávro
Friday	parskeví	Blue	blé
Saturday	sávato	Beige	bèz
January	ianooários	Green	prássino
February	fevrooários	Grey	gri
March	mártios	Mauve	mòv
April	aprílios	Orange	portokall
May	maíos	Pink	ròz
June	ioōnios	Red	kókkino
July	ioōlios	White	áspro
August	ávghoostos	Light	anihtò
September	septémvrios	Dark	skoōro
October	októvrios		
November	noémvrios	and	kè
December	dhekémvrios	Good night	kaliníhta

GREEK HISTORY

Surely no country can have a history which can begin to compare with that of Greece. No country or race can have been so resilient. It has had many glorious pages and became the teacher of culture to the world. It was conquered and ravaged many times but always kept its lore and traditions. It weathered all its vicissitudes and ever emerged with vitality. It is astonishing how very much the Greek history of one period is the heir of a former one.

A Generation or two ago Greek history was supposed to start with Olympiad One in 776 B.C. Then in 1871 Schliemann discovered the site of Troy and the graves of Mycenae. In 1900 Sir Arthur Evans unearthed the Minoan Palace of Knossos. These discoveries took knowledge of ancient Greece as far back again as Olympiad One was from the Christian era. Now, in our own generation, art of a high degree of sensitivity of the Neolithic age is being discovered.

The History of Greece can be divided into major periods:

The very early pre-Achaean Greeks (3000—2000 B.C.). The advent of the Achaeans (2000—1100 B.C.). The advent of the Dorians and the ensuing dark ages (1100—650 B.C.). The early resurrection of culture (650—480 B.C.). The Classical period (480—330 B.C.) The Hellenistic period (330—146 B.C.). The Greco-Roman period (146—B.C.—324 A.D.). The early Byzantine (324—527 A.D.). The Greek Byzantine Empire 582—1453). The Crusader-Ottoman-Venetian occupations (1204—1821 A.D.). Modern Greece (1827—today).

In the battle of Navarino in October 1827 the British, French and Russian fleets sank the Turkish-Egyptian fleet. This was largely instrumenatal in Greece re-gaining her independence. In 1832 a Bavarian Prince came to the throne but after 32 years was obliged to leave as the Greeks thought he was too arbitrary. In 1864 a Danish prince was elected to the throne as George I and his grandson is the present King Paul of the Hellenes. In 1912—13 Greece was victorious in two Balkan wars and obtained parts of Macedonia, and added Thrace after the 1914—18 war, in which she participated. In 1940 Greece resisted aggression from Italy and then Germany. In 1944—49 the country had to face the full force of communist aggression organised and aided from across the frontiers of her northern communist neighbours. Since about 1953 reconstruction and progress in Greece have been remarkable.



6. Electrification is proceeding rapidly



7. Hydroelectric and irrigation dam. Acheloos



8. Modern Athens. The Academy and the Lycabettos



9. Modern Athens. The Stadium and the Acropolis

IMPORTANT DATES IN GREEK HISTORY

B.C.		A.D.	
3000	Neolithic period	54	Nero despoils Greece
2000	Minoan in Crete	117	Emperor Hadrian beautifies Athens.
—	Cycladic in Aegean	170	Pausanias tours
1500	Helladic in Greece	260	Goths ravage Greece
2000	Achaean arriving	324	Constantine founds Constantinople.
1500	Late Minoan	393	End of Olympic Games
1450	Fall of Knossos	395	Alaric attacks Greece
1250?	Fall of Troy	467	Invasion of Vandals
1100	Descent of Dorians	527	Justinian
1050?	Dorians attack Athens	867	Patriarch Photios, Catholic schism
1000	Asia Minor colonies	1054	Schism complete
776	Olympiads start	1080	Norman marauders
621	Drakon's legislation	1204	IVth Crusaders divide Greece into fiefs. Geofroy de Villehardoun seizes W. Peloponnesos
492	Darius first attacks	1453	Mohamet II seizes Constantinople
490	Victory at Marathon	1687	Doge Morosini seizes Athens.
480	Thermopylae and Salamis	1821	Declaration of Independence from Turks.
468	Rise of Perikles.	1827	Battle of Navarino
447	Parthenon started.	1832	King Othon.
431	Peloponnesian War.	1863	King George I
430	Death of Perikles.	1864	Ionian Islands ceded
369	Sokrates	1912	Balkan Wars. Macedonia becomes Greek
460	Demokritos	1916	Greece joins allies
428	Platon	1923	Defeat in Asia Minor.
384	Aristoteles	1940	Italy attacks Greece
359	Philip II., King of Macedon.	1941	Germany attacks Greece
336	Alexander the Great, King of Macedon.	1947	King Paul of Hellenes
332	Alexandria founded		
323	Death of Alexander		
146	Corinth and all Greece conquered by Rome		
A.D.			
49	St. Paul visits Greece.		
—	Founds first Christian church in Europe.		
52			

GREEK FOOD AND COOKING

You should be able to get satisfactory and tasty food throughout Greece, but it does require knowing if you get off the beaten track. There is a tendency to serve dishes swimming in oil and for the sweets to be far too sugary. This, however, does not apply to Athens hotels and the better known restaurants and taverns or the usual places of halt in the provinces. You will find that universally mine host is principally interested to see that you have been satisfied and will go out of his way to put matters right if there is any dissatisfaction.

Normally Greeks start a meal with a spaghetti (which they call macaroni) or pilaff rice, followed by a fish or meat course. Both spaghetti and rice are usually good with tomato or meat sauce. The spaghetti or macaroni is cooked a little more than in Italy, which makes it more digestible. Veal is generally the best meat, and pork is good when obtainable. Lamb cooked over the spit is excellent around Easter time. Beef should be ordered only at the better class restaurants and taverns. Little bits of veal on the skewer (*souvlakia*) are popular among visitors to Greece, so is grilled or fried liver. Meat is normally well done, and those who want it underdone should insist.

Mince-meat is popular in many forms. Stuffed tomatoes (*toma-tess ghemistes*), stuffed marrows, (*kolokythia gemista*) and mince-meat and rice wrapped in cooked vine leaves (*dolmadhes*) are normally on all menus, in season. Macaroni cake with mince meat (*pastichio*) and moussaka which is a pie consisting of layers of potato and aubergines (egg plant) or marrow, with a bechamel sauce are tasty national dishes which you should try.

Chicken is always obtainable, but Turkey more rarely. Game is also rare in the restaurants. Fish is obtainable everywhere, and, in fact, outside the Athens taverns is more readily proffered than meat, which is but natural in a country with such a coastline. The prawns, cray-fish, lobsters are excellent, especially the first. Fresh water fish is not served. Red mullet, (*barbounia*) fried or grilled, taste of the sea, while the plebeian sprats (*maridhes*) are delectable.

Pastries are remarkably good, and there are oriental specialities of honeyed sweet-meats which those with a sweet tooth will love. Many of these, especially the *baclava* have thin millefeuille pasrty leaf. Turkish Delight, from the Isle of Syra, are supreme.



- ★ View facing the Acropolis ★ 100 Rooms. ★ Air conditioning.
- ★ Telephones: 24.016 - 24.017 - 24.018 ★ Tel. Addr.: Hotel Alex
- ★ Address 18, Venizelos St. Athens.

The largest, the latest,
the fastest GREEK
TRANSANTLANTIC liner.
23,000 Tons. Built in 1953
Speed 21 knots.



"OLYMPIA,"

to
CANADA and U.S.A.



The T.S. "OLYMPIA," provides
its passengers of all
classes with unexcelled
comfort and luxury.

GREEK LINE

GOULANDRI Bross

17-19 AKTI MIAOULI - PIRAEUS TEL. 470-271

YOUR STAY IN GREECE

What you will choose to do during your visit to Greece will naturally depend on several factors: The duration of your stay, your mood, your pocket or purse, the time of the year, and your natural disposition and outlook.

A country with such a history as Greece has an infinite variety of facets, but not least of these is the vitality and resilience of the people. Through townlet and hamlet, by the sea shore or high upon the mountain slopes you will be welcomed.

If your stay in Greece is but two days, you may, as well as seeing Athens, consider motoring to Sounion. If you have a third day you may go to Delphi, especially if it is summer and daylight allows it to be done comfortably in a single day. An alternative is to visit the Argive plain.

If you are able to stay a week in Greece, you will be able to see Athens, visit Sounion, and indulge in both the above tours.

Instead of the two tours you may consider Olympia on a two day trip. This will take you along the southern shores of the gulf of Corinth where for a hundred miles the road hugs the sea coast in a quite enchanting setting, while Olympia itself basks in a smiling valley gay with bright green vineyards. You can travel one of the

10. Chalkis. Euboea. The Lucy Hotel.



ways, there or back, to include the sights of the Argive plain.

If your stay extends to ten days you may be able to fix in one of the week end cruises to the Aegean Islands, while if you stay a fortnight or over you should seriously consider the five day cruises around the Aegean which embrace Rhodes and Knossos in Crete and some of the fascinating isles of the Cyclades. The lovely islands of the Saronic must not be considered merely as an alternative if you cannot manage the trip around the Aegean. They are very different in character. The islands, some of which lie off the Argolis coast and not really in the Saronic Gulf are thus known as isles of the Argosaronic. Each one of them can be visited within the day, though in the case of the furthest, Spetsai, there is hardly time to see the island, which, anyhow, is considered more as a resort than an island to be visited. Hydra, like Mykonos in the Aegean, is a cynosure for artists. Aegina, the closest, with the fascinating temple to the Goddess Aphaea, is but two hours from Piraeus, while Poros, in some ways the most attractive, is only a little further.

The Spring and Wild Flowers.

Those who have only seen Greece in summer when the heat has parched most of the flora of the Attic plain, would be amazed at the wealth of colour in the Greek countryside. First come the cyclamens, then from early January onwards come the anemonies and the light blue alpine iris, while later the anemonies in the Peloponnesos open out to the sun like bright red daisies. These are followed

11. Rhodes. Prophet Elias. Elafos Hotel among mountain fir trees.





12. Rhodes. The Hotel des Roses has its own beach.

by the bright blush of poppies. Mid-March to Mid-April is the finest time for the wild flowers, though the fruit trees blossom earlier. Towards the end of March many parts of the Peloponnesos are gilt with wild mimosa, while the cottages boast their delicately hued wisteria, and, though more rare, the deep coloured bougainvillia. The latter bright creeper, generally mauvish red, but sometimes scarlet, and the richly royal red hibiscus are the particular pride of the Isle of Rhodes. Sweet scented roses flourish in profusion in the countryside of Greece from early spring until the end of the year.

In the last four or five years the country has been developed touristically at a vastly accelerated pace. New roads and hotels have been constructed throughout the country, and not merely for the places of archaeological interest, but for the wealth of the country's scenic beauty, which, coupled with an ideal climate is a treasure which has lain fallow for so many generations. Not merely places like the enchanting Isle of Corfu, or the colourful Bay of Pylos and the Aegean islands, but spots more off the beaten track, have now comfortable hotels. The small picturesque villages can also offer you hospitality in the guest houses, organised by the Royal National Foundation in conjunction with the National Tourist Organization. The North of Greece, in Macedonia and Thrace, as well as Epiros are also alive to the comforts that visitors need, as well as to the knowledge that they have much to offer.



13. Entrance to the Acropolis from the West.

ATHENS

CITY OF THE VIOLET CROWN

In the summer of 1958 Prime Minister Harold Macmillan of Great Britain, spending a day in Athens, described it as 'The Most Beautiful and Famous City in the World'. That it has a right to contend for the description of the most beautiful of Cities, it is hoped that you will be able to judge for yourself. There can be but few contending rivals, to its claim to be the most famous, for Athens within a short span of two or three generations produced more famous names in art, culture, science, and philosophy, or having a right to be inscribed on the indelible rolls of history, than the rest of the world has produced in a single century, with possibly the exception of our own times.

Apart from the fact that Athens became the cultural school of the ancient world, it taught the world not only of what to think, but also how to think. Athens taught the world the principles of Community Development and thus has been called "The Cradle of Democracy".

Athens is dominated by a hill and a rock. The hill, Lycabettos, was outside the precincts of the ancient City. It is capped by a humble friendly white-washed small church. The rock is the Acropolis, crowned by the Parthenon, the magnificent man-made crown, the temple to the virgin Goddess Athena, born from the brain of Zeus, Father of Gods and Men, and King of Hosts. Athens, however, has also another crown, the Crown of Violet which the Gods of Old be-

queathed to the City of Athena, so that at sunset it is crowned by the vault of the heavens bathed in refracted light of the setting sun.

After Phoibos Apollon has driven his Sun chariot across the vault of the heavens and dips over the Western Horizon, he leaves behind him a roseate glow which pink tinges everything and picks out some puffs of cloud in vivid hue. When the mood takes him, and it is not infrequently, Apollon casts his spell and gradually the hues turn to wine colour and then purple, and finally as the light begins to fade, Mount Hymettos, like a serene squatting elephant, takes on a violet tinge harmonising with the heavens, and inspiring the ancient citizens to call their proud and glorious City of Athena, the "City of the Violet Crown".

In the pellucid atmosphere of Athens everything lives harmoniously with everything else. Around the majestic rock of the Acropolis with its stately temples, humble homes crawl, gay with their pots and cans of geranium, carnation, jasmine and vine. Interspersed with them are diminutive Byzantine churches, mellowed with the patina of many centuries, reposeful in the early humble spirit of Christianity, and almost aethereal in construction. In this City which produced superlative art and the most profound thinkers, a modern metropolis has arisen where classical buildings live happily cheek-a-jowl with the concrete concepts of progressive architects

14. Corinthian columns of the temple of Olympian Zeus.



WHERE TO STAY WHEN IN ATHENS

Book early! Especially during the summer season. Athens has nothing like enough hotels to meet the demand, though during 1959 and the following two years over a thousand extra beds are being added a year or definitely scheduled. Normally the most convenient locality to stay is around or close to Syntagma (Constitution) Square. It is close to the shopping centres, the Ministries, Embassies, and fashionable centres. It is close to the Royal Gardens. The air line and travel offices concentrate there.

In summer many visitors like to stay at Kifissia, ten miles distance where it is much cooler, especially at night. It is a pleasant verdant suburb of villas and many hotels. Many have to stay there as Athens itself may be full, and frequently there are international congresses, or visitors for the Festivals of Epidauros or Athens, making advance accommodation, for full satisfaction, essential. There is regular communication between Athens and Kifissia, presenting no difficulty. There are some hotels along the sea shore, though nothing like enough. The only luxury accommodation on the coast at present, are the bungalows of Asteria beach.

Some of the luxury hotels insist on demi-pension terms, whereby one meal is charged per day, whether you have it or not. Many of the new hotels which will be functioning in 1959 will be of 1st class category, as opposed to luxury, to meet a growing demand.

15. H. M. King Paul.



ATHENS

HOTEL GRANDE BRETAGNE

THE LEADING HOTEL OF ATHENS
WITH ALL MODERN COMFORTS
ON CONSTITUTION SQUARE

■

Facing the Monument of the Unknown Warrior
and near the Royal Gardens. The Hotel
commands a magnificent view of the Acropolis.

●

450 rooms - all with bath.
Luxurious air conditioned apartments.

■

The restaurant - bars - and all reception
rooms and lounges are air conditioned.

●

An entirely new wing, completely up to date will
be opened in the Autumn of 1959.

FLY TWA USA

on the **ALL-JETSTREAM** fleet



Now.. the greatest fleet ever to take wing across the Atlantic...flying direct to the USA!

T57/5

On the all-Jetstream fleet, you get there rested, relaxed. Because TWA Jetstream is the longest-range airliner in the world.

* Jetstream is a service mark owned exclusively by TWA.

For reservations see your Travel Agent or call TWA,
Constitution Sq., Tel. 30 965

WHAT TO SEE IN ATHENS

The Acropolis is the outstanding "must". Apart from the Acropolis, a visit to the ancient Agora is strongly indicated, but a visit to the National Archaeological Museum is almost essential. With these visits you can cull the spirit of the classical past of the City. They are described separately (pp. 33-48).

First of all you must be warned that the Museum closes at two o'clock, and thus should be included in the morning sightseeing. From the point of view of time you can actually visit all three in the morning. You can



16. The Modern Library

visit the Acropolis in about an hour and a half, including a visit to the theatre of Dionysos on its slopes, the rock of the Areios Pagos, the ancient supreme Tribunal where Saint Paul addressed the Athenians, and a visit to the Acropolis museum close to the Parthenon itself. The ancient Agora requires far less time and half an hour should suffice. The National Museum is rich, in unique archaeological treasures, which it sets out with superb skill. It is wrong, however, to attempt to assimilate too much at a time. It would be advisable, therefore, not to spend more than an hour and a half, if that.

Apart from the above, the classical monuments to be seen are: **The temple of Olympian Zeus** originally started in the 6th cent. B. C. but not completed till some seven hundred years later in the time of Hadrian. It is by far the largest temple of Athens, with Corinthian columns. Close to it, on the main road,



17. The Arch of Hadrian.

is **Hadrian's Arch** on one side of which is written 'Entrance to the City of Theseus', and on the other, giving entrance to the Temple of Zeus 'Entrance to the City of Hadrian'. Between the Arch and the Acropolis is the little **monument of Lysicrates** which has the finest example of the Corinthian order. Between the monument and the Agora lies the old quarter of Athens, known as Plaka, with much local colour and charm. Closer to the ancient Agora there are ruins of the Roman Agora, though of secondary interest but including the octagonal small building known as the tower of the winds, or the monument of **Aeolos**, as its eight sides face the cardinal points. The building in fact was built in the 1st century B.C. as an horologium, or clock tower, containing a water clock. The ancient Potters quarters of the Keramikos are also of interest.



18. The Monument of Lysicrates.

The Byzantine churches of Athens are fascinating, and particularly the little church of **St. Eleftherios**, close to the Metropolis. It is the earlier Cathedral of Athens, and assuredly the smallest cathedral in the world. Interesting is the church of the Apostles in the Agora.

The Kapnikarea church in Hermes street is the best known, while the northern slopes of the Acropolis have several which are as diminutive as they are attractive. In summer, the Royal or National Gardens, right in the centre of the City should not be overlooked. Philopappos hill has good Views.



19. The Tower of the winds.

THE ACROPOLIS AND THE PARTHENON



20. The Parthenon from the Propylaea.

May we suggest that when you visit the Parthenon you try to imagine it in the days of its glory, when it was surrounded by statues. Then, between the gateway entrance, the Propylaea, and the temple itself, was the magnificent erect statue of the Goddess Athena with golden shining helmet and spear. They heliographed the sun to the distant mariners at sea, who, seeing it, knew that they were near their return journey's end, to the City of their beloved Goddess. Inside the temple was the gigantic statue of Athena, of Gold and Ivory, the work of Pheidias, supreme sculptor of ancient Greece. The temple itself was painted, as were all, or nearly all classical temples and statuary of ancient Greece. The Parthenon was painted, no doubt, in all the decorated parts, though probably not the columns except for the capitals. The statues had the dress, hair, eyes and lips painted, but the flesh was varnished with a system known as *ganossis*. Imagine the temple as it then existed, and imbibe its majesty, its beauty, and its serenity. Dates and figures should be read at some other time, unless you can follow the ideal plan of visiting the Acropolis twice, once to absorb its beauty and another time as a student of architecture or archaeology.

The Acropolis was the citadel of Athens before the Parthenon was begun in 447 B.C. Greece had been in mortal danger some two generations earlier. The armies and the fleets of the Medes and the Persians, of a size never before known in the history of the world, set out to subdue the Athenians and the rest of Greece. Twice they entered the City and sacked it between 490 and 480 B.C., finally to suffer disastrous defeat at Marathon, at Salamis and Plataea.

When a generation later, Athens had recovered and had prosper-



21. Rosanna Podesta shows the best spot for photos. The S. E. corner of the Parthenon

ed, it was decided, under the inspiration of Perikles, to render due thanksgiving to the protecting Goddess, who had led them herself to victory in the forefront of the battle array. The Athenians glorified their Goddess thus to glorify their City.

The Pathenon's proportions are 228 by 101 feet, and there are 17 columns on each side, with 8 in each facade, the height of the columns being 35 feet. Iktinos, the architect, made such minute calculations that its proportions should be as perfect as human ingenuity could make it, and these may have been elaborated to counteract the defects of the human eye. The Parthenon

has intentional deviations. In its length the centre of the basis is 4 inches higher than the ends, whereas in the facades the difference is less than three inches. Visitors can prove this by placing a hat on the steps at one end and looking at it with the eye on ground level from the other, when the intervening central bulge will hide most of the hat. All the columns have an imperceptible slant inwards, and the columns are slightly tapering. The outer columns are of the Doric order, that is with a flat square capital and no base. Inside there were Ionic columns, as in the Erechtheion, with a circular base and spiral capitals. The Corinthian order, the other classic Greek column with a capital of acanthus, or thistle leaves, was of a later date, and not on the Acropolis. The Parthenon has undergone many vicissitudes and has been a Christian chapel, a Pasha's palace, and a Turkish arsenal, but had remained in almost perfect state until Doge Morosini of Venice fired a gun at it from the opposite hill of the Philopappos in 1687 and scored a direct hit on the powder magazine.

The entrance to the Acropolis is from the West, and was by a zig-zag path, the steps being a Roman addition. At the summit are



22. Theatre of Dionysos on the Acropolis slopes



23. Theatre of Dionysos. The proscenium



24. The Caryatids



25. Temple of Nike



26. Ionian columns of the Erechtheion. On left the Caryatids. Propylaea in distance.



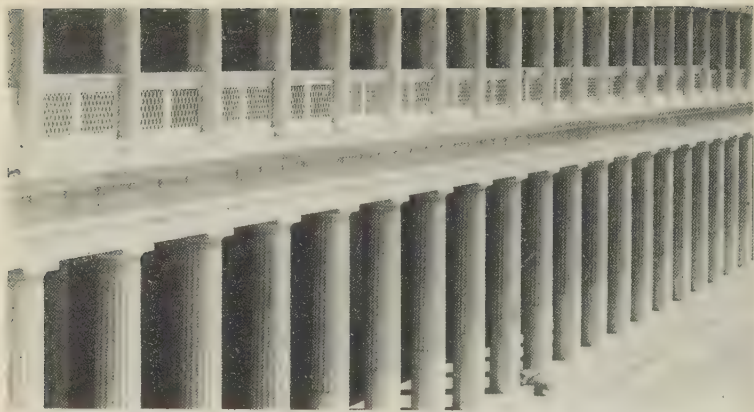
27. The Propylaea or inner gateway to the sacred rock.

the Propylaea, in principle a marble wall through which were five tall gateways, flanked by Doric porticoes, with Ionic columns supporting the roofs. On the North side was a magnificent colonnaded hall, which included paintings, and overlooked the Agora. On the South West is the daintily exquisite diminutive 27 feet long Ionic Temple to Athene Bringer of Victory, "Athene Nike". It has but four Ionic columns, and has the exquisiteness of a ballet dancer.

On the North side is the Erechtheion group of porticoes, on the South face of which are the famous caryatids (see photos 24 and 26) The Erechtheion peeped over the top to the Agora below, spelling that elegance and youthful gaiety which was of the essence of the Athenian. This tripartite temple is the repository of the most sanctified ground of Athenian veneration. Here was lodged the sacred serpent and here too the God Poseidon contended with the Goddess Athena for the right to be the patron of the City, but Athena, whose emblem was the olive tree, insignia of peace, was duly acclaimed.

On the Southern slope you should visit the theatre of Dionysos. Here were first played the everlasting classical tragedies and the eternal comedies of Aristophanes. It is in a good state of preservation."

Entrance to the Acropolis itself is 10 drachmas; it is open from sunrise to sunset, and until midnight on the three fullest days of the moon.



28. The stoa of Attalos II reconstructed in the Agora as a museum.

THE ANCIENT AGORA

The ancient agora is one of the most hallowed places of ancient Greece. It is here that first beat the heart of European and modern culture.

To understand the inspiration that raised Greek culture to a level not since surpassed, the attitude of the ancient Greeks, and not those of Athens only, must properly be understood. They regarded themselves primarily as component parts of their city, and only in a lesser degree as individuals. Family life was subservient to that of the life of the community and community life was centred around the worship of their protector Goddess or God. The heartbeat of the City and of its citizens was therefore in the Agora where stood the temples, though in the case of Athens the Agora lay in the shadow of the temples to Athena on the Acropolis. The Athenians were far more interested in the beautification of their civic centre and temples than they were in the decoration of their homes.

The Agora is normally translated as the market place. It is more the place where they talked—and also bargained. Here indeed were the stalls, the booths and the shops. The Agora was far more than that, however. It was the civic centre where the parliament and the administrative buildings were situated, also the offices of the magistrates, the weights and measures, and even the municipi-

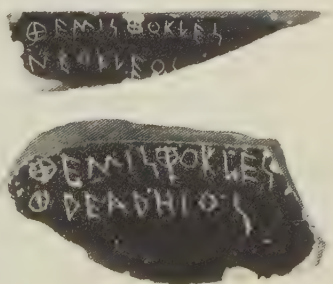
pal theatre. Here were the bankers and the beauty parlours, most in their proper sections like a modern departmental store. It was here too, outside the Stoa of Zeus, to the West, that Socrates would discourse, interrogate and thus teach his philosophy, with mankind as its subject, which was the precursor of our modern Christian faith.

Some thirty years ago the site of the Agora was still built over, though some excavations had already taken place. Then, in 1931, the clearing of the whole area was begun by the American School of Classical Studies, with financial help from American institutions. The projected work was completed in 1956 when the reconstructed Stoa of Attalos II, King of Pergamos, was inaugurated as the Agora Museum. During the excavations it transpired that the ancient Agora extended still further to the North than had been originally believed, and therefore a small part to the North of the Athens - Piraeus Railway has still to be expropriated and excavated. It covers the site of the most famous of stoas, that of the Poikile Stoa, or the Painted Arcade.

During the excavations 60,000 catalogued finds were made, not counting 200,000 coins. The question arose as to where these finds should be housed, and the bold decision was taken to reconstruct the Stoa of Attalos II, exactly as it was in ancient times and make it the Agora Museum. The Stoa of Attalos was chosen because its ruined remains were the more indicative of its precise ancient form.



Agora finds. 29. Left. A nursery utensil.
30. Right. Potheads or ostraka. These ones were
used as votes to ostracise Themistokles.





31. The Temple of Hephaistos, known as the Theseion, overlooks the Civic Centre.

The form of the Ancient Agora.

Habitation in the Agora site goes back to about 3,000 B.C. From the sixteenth to the sixth centuries it was used as a burial ground. The earlier public buildings of the Agora were built in the time of Solon, shortly after 600 B. C. and development proceeded eastwards extending finally in the second Century A.D. to the Roman Market Place and the Library of Hadrian. A barbarian attack sacked the Agora in 287 A.D., but after a revival it was finally extinguished by further northern barbarian attacks in the fifth and sixth centuries A.D.

During the periods of many centuries there naturally were many changes, and more particularly additions. It was more full and extended at the later periods. The Stoa, or arcades, were shopping centres, with promenades sheltering from sun and rain. The Stoa of Attalos II was given by that King of Pergamos, in grateful remembrance of his student days in Athens and dates from about 150 B.C.

Opposite the Agora is the Temple of Hephaistos (Vulcan), wrongly called the Theseion. Then, and to-day, the smithies had their quarters, around it as he was the God of the Forge.

The Agora offers a small pamphlet at 3 drs, and a guide at 30 drs. (See page 50).



32 The all marble reconstructed stadium seats 60,000.

THE MUSEUMS OF ATHENS

THE NATIONAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM

The National Archaeological Museum is an exhibition of supreme ancient treasures of art as also a museum which shows these in a manner elucidating their historic development. A very large section of the finest examples of Ancient Greek art which have not found their way abroad, one way or another, are housed here. They are exhibited with consummate skill. It is, however, the general Greek practice to keep local finds in the museum of the locality, should there be such museum, and thus the treasures of Delphi and Olympia, of Knossos, Old Corinth, Delos, Eleusis, Epidauros, Pylos and Tegaea, are to be seen in the local museums. The treasures of Attica

when the Museums are Open (Entrance 5 Drs.)

Museum	Open	Sundays	Closed
Archaeological	8. —2. p.m.	9. —1. p.m.	Monday
Acropolis	7.30—6. p.m.	closed	Sunday
Benaki	9.30—1.30 p.m. 4.30—7.30 p.m.	9.30—1.30	Tuesday
Byzantine	9. —2. p.m.	8. —1. p.m.	Saturday
Decor. Arts	8.30—1.30 p.m.	8.30—1 p.m.	



33 & 34. Two facades of two archaic four sided kouroi pedestals with sporting subjects. The background is pink,

Mycenae and Tyrins are all, however, in the National Museum, and so too, and most important, the submarine finds

When the Romans occupied Greece after 146 B.C. they attempted to despoil Greece of her art treasures and loaded their ships with statues to be sent to Rome. Often they were too greedy and overloaded them so that when they encountered rough seas they sank. Some of the finest bronze statues of the museum have been salvaged from the sea from 1900 A.D. onwards.

Neolithic Age and Early Bronze Age. There is very little of the neolithic period in the museum but there are statuettes, especially from the Cyclades, from 2,800 B.C. onwards, and of great interest.

Mycenaean period. The museum is uniquely rich in treasures





Plan now to visit Greece in **1959**

Sail on the only Greek Flag ocean Liner
in regular service between New York and Piraeus

S. S. **QUEEN FREDERICA**

COMPLETELY AIR-CONDITIONED

*On this superb Liner you really relax . . . rest
enjoy life at its best.*

Calling en route at

GIBRALTAR — PALERMO — NAPLES — MESSINA

SAILINGS FROM NEW YORK

APRIL 10th
MAY 5th
JUNE 2nd
JUNE 30th
JULY 25th
AUGUST 23rd
SEPTEMBER 19th
OCTOBER 16th

SAILINGS FROM PIRAEUS

MARCH 24th
APRIL 21st
MAY 19th
JUNE 16th
JULY 12th
AUGUST 10th
SEPTEMBER 6th
OCTOBER 3rd

**For more information,
see your favorite Travel Agent**



HOME LINES AGENCY INC. General Agents for United States and Canada
42 Broadway, New York 4, N. Y. • Digby 4-6363

ATHENS

MAP SQUARES EQUAL 1/4 MILE





1. Theatre of Herodes Atticus
2. Theatre of Dionysos
3. Monument of Lysicrates
4. Hadrian's Arch
5. The Horologium, or Tower of Winds
6. Pandrossou Street
7. Kapnikarea Church
8. The Little Cathedral
9. Royal National Foundation
10. Anglican Church
11. Zappeion
12. The Royal Palace

13. United States Embassy
14. Beneki Museum
15. Grande Bretagne Hotel
16. King George II Hotel
17. Syniagma Post Office
18. Athenee Palace Hotel
19. Telegraph Office
20. Archaeological Society
21. Lyritiki Skini (Opera)
22. Vassilikon Theatre
23. Leading to Nat. Arch. Museum



The Martinos Galleries of which the entrance is shown above is situated in the heart of the old district of Plaka, the unchanged and most colourful part of Athens. It is close to the Tower of the Winds and the ancient Agora. The Galleries have a fine collection of ancient vases, coins and statuettes, Byzantine icons, island embroideries, brocades and costumes, rugs and carpets, ceramics silverware and brass, trinkets and also furniture.



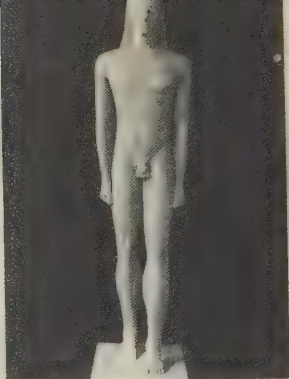
35. The bronze 5th cent B.C. statue, rescued from the deep is believed to be that of Poseidon, God of the Oceans.

from Mycenae and Tyrins, and some from Pylos. The Vaphio gold cups should not be missed, the maturity of their art amazes. There are murals, sword hilts, gold death masks, and ornaments of the 17th to 13th centuries B.C.

Geometric period. The period from about 1100 to 600 B.C. is well represented. It is known as the Geometric from the decorative style. It is the period of the dark ages after the Dorians' invasions and of art trying to find its feet again.

Archaic period. From about 650 B. C. the earlier spirit of unrest caused by the mysteries and fears of the unknown of nature gives way and great art emerges, which, however, has not yet attained the highest perfection of skill, but serenely portrays credence in the divine. Archaic statues are rare, but the museum is rich in them.

Classical period. This period is reckoned from the battle of Marathon in 480 B. C. until the death of Alexander the Great in 323 B.C. There are many world famous statues of this period in the museum, but there is also an immense wealth of delicate ceramics of the best period. There are remarkable funereal steles found in the Sacred Way to Eleusis. Outstanding, is the larger than life bronze statue of the God Poseidon salvaged from the deep. He is apparent-

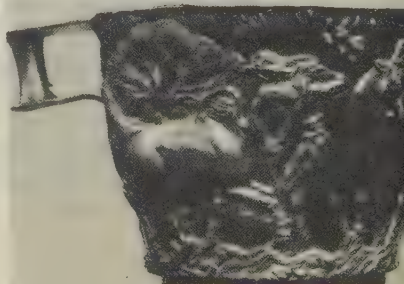
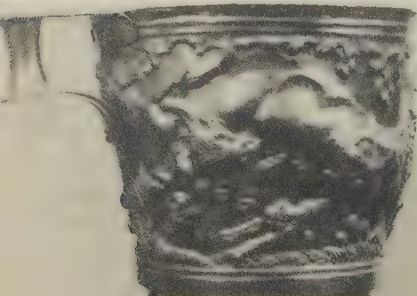


36. The bronze youth rescued from the sea at Marathon. 37. The archaic Kouros marble statue, and 38. The bronze youth rescued from sunken Roman loot off Antikythera.

ly about to throw his trident Some believe that the statue might be that of Zeus Keraunobolos, hurler of thunderbolts. The two bronze statues of youths also rescued from the sea, are likewise of supreme beauty. The one is possibly of Paris, while the other is thought to be of Hermes. The Poseidon is of about 460. B.C., the other two of mid 4th. cent. B.C. The small marble head of Hygieia probably by Scopas, is exquisite.

Hellenistic and later periods. Among the very fine collection is the famous 1st century B.C. bronze statue of the jockey boy.

39 & 40 The Vaphio cups of the Mycenaen period possibly loot from Minoans in Crete. Left : the wild bull impales a man. Right : Tamed Bulls at man's service.





Acropolis Museum. 42. Right. The archaic
century B.C. Kore. 41. Above. Victory loose-
ner sandal. From the Temple of Athena Nike.

THE ACROPOLIS MUSEUM

The Acropolis Museum is comparatively small and nestling inconspicuously within a few yards of the East facade of the Parthenon. Although the site was chosen many years ago, the museum was constructed with great understanding and sensitivity. It lies flat in a hollow and does not impinge on the majesty of the great temple of the Goddess Athena. Its treasures are displayed with the greatest skill.

The museum is particularly rich in statues of the archaic period, that is of the time of Solon and Peisistratos. These statues were mostly found on the slopes of the Acropolis and in a filled in ditch on the sacred rock itself. They are examples of the inspired art that led to the perfection of the fifth century, and nowadays are greatly admired for their intrinsic merit. The museum also contains plaster reproductions of the pediments of the Parthenon which help to a better conception of the temple in its full glory. The plaque of Victory loosening her sandal from the Ionic temple of Athena Nike is a supreme masterpiece. There is no charge for the museum beyond the entrance to the Acropolis.

THE AGORA MUSEUM

The most interesting thing of the Agora Museum is the museum itself (see pages 39-41). The Stoa gives a very good idea of how the shops of the arcade functioned, and generally the aspect of the promenades on both floors.

Unlike ancient Greek buildings and temples the Stoa of Attalos was only slightly painted, possibly because the outside columns were of cream-white Pentelic marble while the inside were of Bluish-white Hymetic.

The exhibits cover many centuries, they include works of art, but particularly finds of great historic interest. As well as the "Democracy Stele" there are many finds which in some intangible way link us with the classic days, such as voting discs and ostracism potheads with famous names incised.

43. The Democracy stele in the Agora Museum. 337/6 B.C. In low relief: an aged man (the people of Athens) being crowned by a woman (Democracy). The text of the law begins: If anyone should rise against the people of Athens with a view to establishing a dictatorship... or suppress the democratic government... anyone who kills the person who has done these things shall be guiltless.

THE BYZANTINE MUSEUM

Shortly after its foundation the Eastern Roman Empire became Greek in every thing but name, and it was not so long before even the name reverted from Constantinople to the ancient appellation of Byzantium. The Byzantine Empire lasted for one thousand years and became the bridge which ultimately carried the art and culture of ancient Greece to its rebirth in the renaissance of Italy. The Byzantine museum depicts to us this civilisation, which was largely ecclesiastic. In a sense it is the rebirth of art in the same way that ancient archaic art preceded the perfection of the classical period. Likewise too it is impregnated with devoutness and timeless serenity. Byzantine art is well represented in the museum, which itself is built in the Byzantine style. There are colourful icons candlesticks, bibles, vestments and early Christian sculpture.

"ALECTOR."

This sign...



...represents...



...the high quality
of **DELPHI**
FILTERS
cigarettes

20 CIGARETTES 8 DRS. 10 CIGARETTES 4.50 DRS.

G.A. KERANIS Cigarettes Co

*An invaluable experience
of 35 years guarantees
an ideal and restful trip
served with the finest
meals from ATHENS to:*

EUROPE

AFRICA

AMERICA

*By the finest DC-6B and
DC-7C "SEVEN SEAS"*



SABENA

BELGIAN *World* AIRLINES



44. Benaki Museum Details of St. Luke painting the blessed Virgin. Youthful work of Domenico Theotokopouli (El Greco)

Byzantine iconographic style and probably painted before he left Crete. Much is shown of Greek National interest of all periods, and among these exhibits are some exquisite trinkets, golden bracelets, ear-rings, belts, and headgear of classical times.

OTHER MUSEUMS

The **Epigraphic Museum** which contains thousands of inscriptions and the **Numismatic Museum** with tens of thousands of coins of all periods, are part of the Arch. Mus. building, and of extreme historic interest. The former is due to reopen in summer 1959. The **National & Historic Museum** in Amalias Avenue deals with modern Greece. The Arts and Crafts Museum in a former mosque is in Monasteraki Square.

THE BENAKI MUSEUM

The Benaki Museum should more correctly be called a collection in the same way as the Wallace Collection of London. It contains an unique exhibit of Greek and Near Eastern embroideries, brocades and lace. In particular it has a remarkable exhibition of women's regional dress from all parts of Greece and covering many generations. These are impressive and universally admired. The ceramics of the Eastern Mediterranean are representative and include many Rhodes ware and incidentally many of the Eumorphopoulo china collection pieces, bequeathed to the museum.

There are examples of Byzantine art, including two paintings of Theotokopouli's (El Greco) early days in



45. Benaki Museum. Cretan dress.

WHERE AND WHAT TO EAT IN ATHENS

Athens seems to be a vast City of restaurants. During the summer season the family avoids dining indoors and all who can, seek a taven. There is an endless array of restaurants along the sea coast, there are roadhouses out of town, and an infinity of taverns especially on the slopes of the Acropolis (see page 57) Prices vary. The most satisfactory western European cooking is to be obtained at the best hotels, here however the table d'hôte is charged 60-70 drachmas, plus service charge, and wine is more expensive. Restaurants such as Averoff in Stadium street and Pantheon near Omonia square are satisfactory at half that price. Costis restaurant in Korai steet, between the two is a homely restaurant of fairly moderate price, and one of the few in Athens which heats the plates for hot food. The Corfu restaurant close to the centre is homely, good and cheap. For sea food you should visit the many tavern - restaurants of Tourcolimano in the Piraeus, right on the sea-front in the little harbour. Good sea food however is never very cheap in any part of the world. The Asteria beach restaurant is a luxury restaurant at Glyphada, but there are also good restaurants on the road leading to it, of which Psaropoulos is well known. Of country road -houses Varibobi in the hills beyond Kifissia and Pikermi on the Marathon road are the best known centres. Athens, however, loves its taverns



46. The little harbour of Tourcolimano has fine fish taverns

WHILE IN GREECE

TRY

OUR EXCELLENT
APERITIFS



VERMOUTH

FRENCH, OR
ITALIAN TYPE

O U Z O

THE NATIONAL
APERITIF

Athénée Palace Hotel

Cables : Athénée

Telephone 30.791 (12 lines)

A T H E N S

The most modern first class deluxe Hotel
conveniently located in the heart of Athens.

150 ROOMS, Studio rooms - Air Conditioned - Bar - Beauty Salon
150 BATHS, Restaurant, Lounges Convention Room, Barber Shop

During the season, Soirées de Gala, Teas,
Cocktails and Dinner Dancing.

TOURIST SHOP

SOUVENIRS
FROM GREECE

JOHN KALOKERINOS

SMOKER'S HOUSE UNIVERSITY ST. 3^A
ATHENS GREECE) TEL. 21.503

PLAN AND TRAVEL THROUGH

HORIZON

TRAVEL TOURIST & TRANSPORT AGENTS
14, NIKIS STREET (SYNTAGMA) ATHENS. GREECE

CABLES HORIZON - TELEPHONES : 4 LINES 36.500 - 31.454 - 31.444 - 30.601

TA EPTA ADELPHIA TAVERNA
THE SEVEN BROTHERS TAVERN



CHRISTOS P. ANNOUSIS TEL. 25 901
39 YPERIDOU STREET PLAKA. ATHENS


Kopw's

"KORONIS,"

12, DEMOCRITOU STREET ATHENS - TEL. 613.474

TSIKAS - BONANOS & C°

Right in the centre of the City you will find the very finest confectionery and bakery products. For any of your needs telephone us at No 613-174. We will be happy to give you prompt attention.

ROYAL CLUB

THE
GREEK
CHAMPAGNE TYPE
WINE



BRUT OR DEMIE SEC

THE ONLY
NATURAL SPARKLING
WINE OF GREECE

47. Mrs. America of 1957 enjoys both the visit to an Athens Taverna and the Plaka songs of the Athenian minstrels.



THE ATHENS TAVERNA

The Athens tavernas are visited at night. Some are natural and unadulterated, while others are decorated to attract the better classes and visitors to Athens, and generally have a guitar player or trio who also sing. Then there are the fashionable and more expensive taverns with dance floors and floor shows, but which close during the summer. The floor shows start at about 11 p.m. and continue till about 2 a.m. The luxury taverns in Athens itself include the Tzaki, one of the smallest, near the Royal Gardens, which is cosy and the food is good, and also the Palaia Athina, the Kastro and the Vraho, the last three of which are in Plaka. Be explicit in your pronunciation when referring to the last, for there is also a tavern called Vakho (Bacchus), next to the Ancient theatre of Dionysos with a lot of artificial though attractive local colour, and likewise another called Vlaho which is situated high on the slopes of the Acropolis, a little difficult to find, but worth it, for however hot the summer night might be, there is a cooling breeze on its terrace from which the diners can see the myriads of sparkling, twinkling lights of the Metropolis spread below and stretching afar to the distant hills. There are also luxury taverns in Castella near the Piraeus, in Kiffisia and elsewhere.

In the more humble taverns you will see the Athenians relaxing. However hard the strife of the day, however vehemently the Athenian pursues the daytime struggle to make ends meet in a country by no means rich, he and his wife, or his girl friend, relax at night. They drink their retsina wine and burst into their songs of nostalgic yearning, so fitting to the balmy nights.

THEATRES AND AMUSEMENTS

Most naturally the language question is a profound handicap for visits to the theatre, the more the pity because whereas the Greek theatre is poor in stage setting, it has a wealth of fine actresses and actors, tragedians, comedians and starlets with undoubted charm and talent. The main stage attraction for the visitor is therefore the ancient drama and comedies produced by the National theatre, in June-July at the ancient outdoor theatre of Epidauros, and in August-September in the ancient outdoor theatre of Herodes Atticus on the slopes of the Acropolis. These productions have an exceptionally high standard and are enjoyed by all visitors in spite of their lack of knowledge of language. The chorus is always worthy of the highest praise. The opera also, the "Lyriki Skini" is beginning to find its feet and some of the productions are to be commended.

The review spectacles depend largely on their comedians and political quips and thus lose their attraction for the visitor. Expressionist and ballet dancing has become most popular in Athens but its traditions have not yet acquired sufficient roots. The Choro-drama which in winter and spring has Monday performances is of interest in that some of its productions express Greek popular feeling in music and dance. Otherwise all theaters, but not cinemas, are closed on Mondays. Somewhere around May 15th, according to

48. The Chorus of the ancient drama performances is of the very highest level.





49. The Zappeion Exhibition Hall gardens.

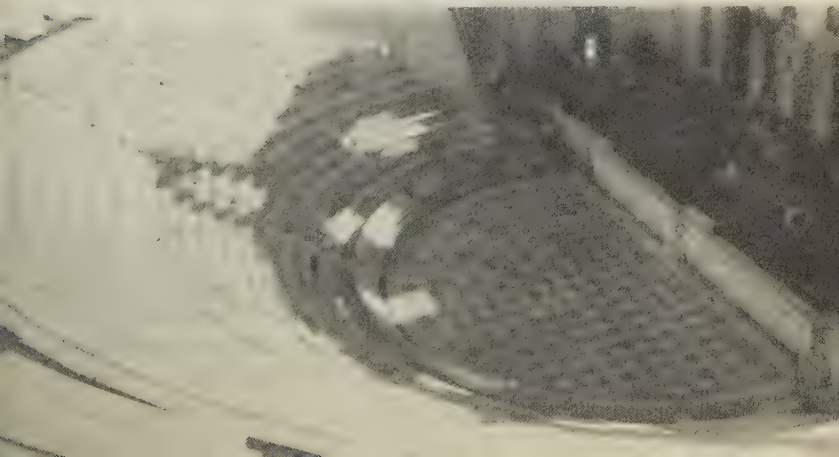
weather, all winter theatres and cinemas close,

Cinemas. There are many and everywhere, and up-to-date in the films shown. Most are American and not dubbed. In summer the open air cinemas are not so central, but pleasant; instead of half a dollar, entrance is about half that price, but the films are second showings. You should make sure in summer that a film is one that you have not already seen, but with its title transformed.

Concerts: Athens has regular concerts, and during the summer Athens Festival at the Herodes Atticus theatre there are also guest artists of international fame, including foreign operas and ballets.

Cabarets: There are floor shows of all degrees. In summer the Argentina, the best known, moves down to its premises by the sea. There are also many at Phaleron and beyond at Voula.

50. In the reconstructed theatre of Herodes Atticus, 2,500 have a perfect view.





WHERE AND WHAT TO SHOP

51. The small church of St. Eleftherios was once the cathedral of Athens. It is next to the present Cathedral close to Hermes street, the shopping centre.

Arts and Crafts producing souvenirs have been boosted in the last two or three years and there are many shops dealing exclusively in these in the central part of the City. Some around Syntagma square have permission to remain open on Sundays and otherwise closing hours in order to serve tourists. On the whole these souvenirs have not yet been produced with a practical or useful purpose in view, but none the less are attractive. Shops catering to the ladies have good taste, and are centred around Hermes (Ermou) street and Jan Smuts. Ladies should take note of the very fine quality and high taste of Athenian footwear, which is second to none. Embroideries for tableware and blouses are colourful and beautifully executed, but skirts tend to put on the Greek motif too strongly. Another range of shops which attracts the fair sex visiting Athens is that of the furriers. Making of coats and wraps of superb appearance, yet made of bits and pieces, and thus at a reasonable price, is a skill that has been traditional to the Greeks of Castoria in Northern Greece, for generations and centuries.

Those who want to take a small token to friends can consider the pistachio nuts, and also the boxes of lookooms (Turkish Delight) of which the Syra manufacture of Stamatelaki are of the best.

Another line which many visitors seek is that of the antiquities. For ancient Greek or Byzantine objects d'art, a permit may be required but the antiquarian will obtain this if necessary, it may however take a few days. Pantrossou street, near Monastiraki Sq. is an antiquarians district, Martino's at No. 50 being the best known. Classical antiquities have become more rare and expensive recently.



Express passenger service between
Naples, Genoa, Cannes, Algeciras
and New York by the 30,500 ton
Sunliners "INDEPENDENCE"
and "CONSTITUTION"

"ACES,, One Class passenger
service between Piraeus and New
York via Naples, Marseilles,
Genoa, Leghorn and Barcelona
with excellent opportunities for
sightseeing at all ports



AMERICAN EXPORT LINES

AKTI MIAOULI 17, PIRAEUS, TEL. 43-491, 40-671

ANTIQUITIES AND OBJECT OF ARTS GEORGE ALEXOPOULOS

FOUNDED 1900 - ATHENS

Byzantine icons, ancient Greek vases, works of art
at moderate prices

TEL. 27 355 - 44, PANDROSSOU STREET (MONASTIRAKI).

OBJECTS OF ART

H. ROUSSOS

ANTIQUITIES

Porcelains - Icons - Embroideries - Souvenirs - Coins

69, PANDROSSOU STREET - ATHENS - TEL. 23.000

NICOS P. ZARAKOVITIS

● OBJECTS OF ART

● OLD ICONS

● COINS

● EMBROIDERIES

● JEWELRY

● ANTIQUITIES

49, PANDROSSOU STREET - TEL. 29.450 - ATHENS

Salon classé

HAUTE COIFFURE FRANÇAISE



Angelos

17 Omirou-Athènes

Tel. 36.551

AROUND ATHENS

There are many places of scenic or historic interest around Athens which can be visited comfortably by car, motorcoach or bus in an afternoon or morning. There are also many beaches within 20 minutes to an hour's drive. Of the beaches the best and most luxurious is the **Asteria** beach at **Ghlyfada**, about eleven miles, twenty-five minutes by car. Entrance is half a dollar a head, and 10 Drs for the car. By bus it is under four Drs, and takes forty minutes. Between Athens and Ghlyfada there are many beaches at a few Drs, but many prefer to go just a few miles further on to the beaches of **Vouliagmeni**, or **Varkiza**, where you can bathe on the beach, or change in a cafe. There are also fine beaches on the East coast of Attica, but at about an hour's drive from Athens.

Of the interesting places around Athens we might first mention **Daphni** and **Eleusis**, because any trip that you may make from Athens other than to the east Attic coast, you will pass them. Until 1956 the road out of Athens was along the **Sacred Way** passing the **Keramikos**, or Potter's quarters, where there are some

Byzantine Monasteries. 52. Left. Kaisariani 10-15 minutes, at the foot of Hymettos. 53. Right Daphni on the road to Salamis Bay





54. The Temple of Poseidon at Sounion is always a thrill

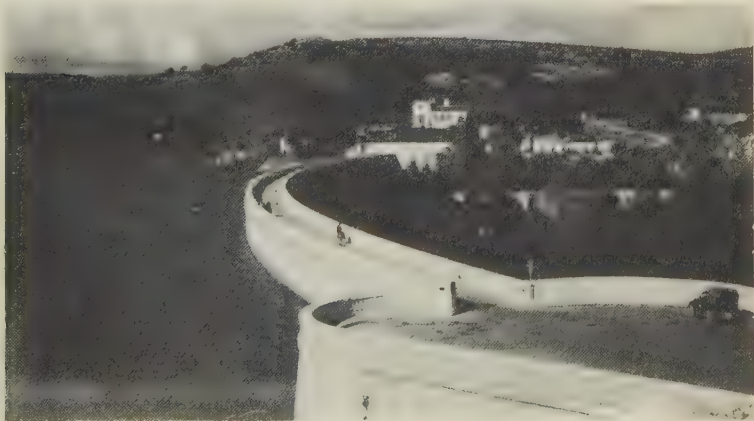
sepulchral monuments and steles of considerable interest. From here the Sacred Way led through the Academy Olive Grove where Plato taught, to Eleusis where the Mysteries were held, and along which the procession of young initiate men moved annually. At the beginning of the Sacred Way there still exists to day an olive tree, surrounded by a railing which many botanists affirm was a contemporary of Plato in the Olive Grove of the Academy. Now a broad avenue is the main highway out of Athens and joins the Sacred Way at Daphni, 6 miles out. **Daphni** is a monastic Byzantine Church of the 11th century, almost aethereal, and contains some of the finest mosaics of Byzantine iconography in existence. Close by there is a most attractive Tourist Pavilion.

From Daphni the road joins the sea a few minutes later and then leads to the ruins of Eleusis, 13 miles distant from Athens. Eleusis does not appeal to many as there is no temple standing. At Eleusis however, some of the deepest religious beliefs had their root. Demeter (Latin: Ceres) was worshipped here as also her daughter Persephone (Latin: Proserpine). Persephone was abducted by Pluto, King of the Underworld who espoused her, but let her return to her mother for six months in the year, the months when vegetation and cereals brighten the earth.

Sounion is 40 miles distant by the inland road and 44 by the new coastal tourist road, which was completed in 1957. The temple

of Poseidon at Sounion has several gleaming white marble columns standing, but its attraction which never fails to fascinate is its dominating position with a seascape of close and distant islands. There are daily coach trips, with meals included at \$7. By taxi \$ 13-15.

Kaisariani you should not miss. An exquisite little monastery church twenty minutes by car (about 80 Drs) in a garden setting. Beyond Kaisariani, since 1958, the road ascends a further ten kilometres to the summit of Mt. Hymettos, with an attractive view. **Marathon** and **Marathon Dam** are attractive runs of an hour. The first is at the classical battlefield, and the starting point of the Marathon races. The Dam, by a different route, forms the artificial lake that supplies Athens with its water. Other places to visit are: **Mount Parnis**, 17 miles, alt. 4,600 ft., in a pine forest. with a good hotel and a new one being built. **Amphiaraion**. 27 miles, 1 hr by bus to Kalamos and 20 mins walk, with vestiges of a temple in an attractive site, and not far from a bathing beach. **Loutsa**, 18 miles on the east Attic coast with an attractive bathing beach. **Penteli**, on the slopes of the marble mountain, with a monastery and fine shady walks. The **Isle of Salamis**, 10 miles. **Rharnos** with the site of a temple. **Kiffissia** at 10 miles is the summer resort of Athens; beyond it are **Ecali** with two hotels, 12 miles, and Dionysos 16 miles. At **Dekelia** also called **Tatoi** there is the estate and summer residence of the Royal Family.



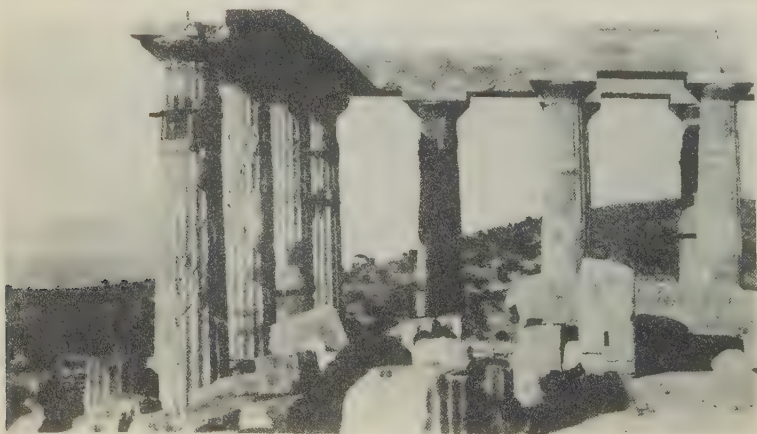
55. The dam at Marathon, built of marble dust bricks.

THE SARONIC ISLANDS

The Islands on the Saronic Gulf (along which the beaches of southern Attica lie, and on the N. E. coast of the Peloponnesos), and off the coast of Argolis are often called the Argosaronic isles. They are served by daily fast and comfortable motor ships, and can be visited in a single day. On Saturdays in Spring and Summer it is advisable to book your tickets beforehand, and avoid queuing at 8. a.m. on the quayside, which is the general departure time. All the isles are attractive.

AEgina

It is 1.1/2 hrs by motor ship from the Piraeus 1st class single fare 29 drs. A pleasant day's trip. Aegina was a flourishing centre in the 6th and 5th centuries B.C. Interesting and attractive ruins of the Temple of Aphaea overlooking the sea are at 8 miles from the port of Aegina (by taxi or bus) and close to the Bay and beach of Aghia Marina, with good bathing and taverns serving fish. Some ten minutes from the port of Aegina there are ruins of a sanctuary to Aphrodite. The island is now famous for its pistachio nuts. Hotels: Cat. A.: Miranda: Cat. C.: Actaion. Aghia Marina village has been organised as an Hotel village with guest houses (see p. 165).



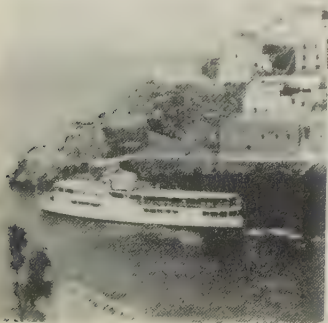
56. The Temple of Aphaea on the Isle Aegina.



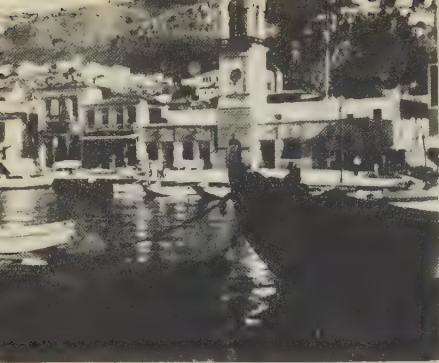
57. Poros. The sea approach.

POROS

It takes about 3 hrs from Piraeus, and the motor ship usually puts in at **Methana** on the mainland of the Peloponnesos, on the way. Poros is somewhat more verdant than most of the Aegean islands. The island is small and it is so close to the Peloponnesos that it only requires a few minutes by sailing or motor boat across the narrow channel. On the mainland an hour's walk takes you to the "Lemon Tree Forest" the "Lemonodhassos" which in spring time makes the air redolent with its blossomed perfume. The island itself has pleasant pebbled beaches with taverns and attractive walks. The Villa Dragoumi is a reposeful Cat. A. hotel with a sea view. Manessi and Aigli are Cat. C. Hotels



58. & 59. M/v Neraida off Hydra and Poros.



Hydra. 60. (Above) The quiet water front.
61. (Right) The island chosen by artists
welcomed Sophia Loren as heroine in the
Boy and the Dolphin.



HYDRA

4 hours. 1st Cl. fare 47 drs. A rocky island and mostly arid, but with a colourful haven and a townlet climbing amphitheatrically around it. It was famed for its valiant mariners in the Greek war of Independence in 1821 and has many historic associations and houses of this period. There is an attractive church near the quay-front, and behind it there is an alleyway ascending over the townlet. The isle attracts many artists and there is an Annexe of the Fine Arts School of Athens to whom application for residence must be made in Athens. The beach is distant. The Hydra hotel is small but comfortable.



62. Hydra during the midday heat.

SPETSAI

5.1/2 hous. 1st Cl. Fare 61 drs. A favourite week-end centre, with good bathing on the opposite Peloponnesos shore, return fare by motor boat 10 drs. Can also be visited from Nauplion. Sights are the nunnery at Elona, and the Grotto. Hotel Cat. A. Poseidonion on quay. Cat. C. Acropole.



63. Poros. The landing stage



64 Hydra. The haven from above



65. Langadia on the Olympia - Tripolis road



66. Olympia. The pine trees of the Altis

TOURING GREECE

The importance attached to time, cost, or comfort will be the guiding factor in your choice of the means available for touring Greece. All main roads are in a generally good condition.

Private Car. The Automobile and Touring Club of Greece, with headquarters at 16, El. Venizelou Street, will help car owners in every way. They publish an excellent route map booklet at Drs. 50, Information should also be sought about traffic regulations including such matters as parking in Athens.

Hire car or taxi. Excellent hire cars are available and the drivers are normally most obliging. Drive yourself cars can also be obtained. The cost of hire cars is about 3.50 per klm. (roughly 18,5 cents a mile) but some owner driven taxis will accept Drs. 2.80 per klm., if arrangements are made beforehand for lengthy trips. Most taxis will take five comfortably as well as the driver.

Bus Services are innumerable and cover almost the whole of the country. They are fairly comfortable. Unfortunately there are over 20 different Bus terminals and no central office. The terminal point from Athens differs according to destination, details of which can be obtained from the little booklet, often distributed free, or sold at Drs. 3. and entitled "This Week in Athens". The bus fare differs according to the route but is very roughly about one drachma for 3 klm. For return tickets, in some of the longer routes, 4 klm. per Dr. Most of the Peloponnesos is covered from two terminals in Saint Constantine Square. Terminal for Delphi is 52. Menandrou Street.

Motor Coaches: These are normally referred to in Greece as Pullmans. They are well organised and cover most of the classic places of interest. The normal period of motor coach tours is from April 1st to October 31st, though some end on September 30th. In the other months motor coach tours only cover one-day tours to Delphi and to the Argolis district, as well as half day trips to Corinth, Sounion, and Marathon. Accommodation in hotels is in double rooms, though in most cases a single room can be obtained by the payment of a supplement.

Private car conducted tours. Some Agencies, e. g. Hermes en Grèce, specialize in tours with a guide for one to four persons. For four persons the price is about double per person that for a comparable coach tour, and for a single person five or six times more.

Railroad : Rail travel on the whole only has advantages for the tourist in a few cases. The mainland of Greece is served on the east coast and north by the State Rly. and has a normal gauge line, while the Peloponnesos is served by the S. P. A. P. Rly., with a narrow gauge. Second class fares are just slightly higher than the comparable bus fare. 1st class fare in the S.P.A.P. lines is about 50% higher than second class, but in the State Rly, (S.E.K.), it varies from 40% to 100% over second class, and mostly the latter. Most trains, other than long distance expresses, are diesel railcoaches, known as automotrices. The rail-coach to Olympia which takes eight and a half hours is an alternative often favoured to taking the bus to nearby Pyrgos, and thence by car or other bus. The rail fare is about \$7 single first class. The scenery along the Gulf of Corinth is truly enchanting and by rail coach the journey, though slightly longer, is perhaps more restful. Apart from some journeys to the north of Greece, such as Larissa and beyond, bus transport is faster, and is invariably so in the Peloponnesos.

Air Travel is undertaken efficiently by Olympic Airways. Flights link the capital with Salonica five times a day, approximately twice a day each with Heraklion and Chania in Crete, as also with Rhodes and Corfu, and once daily, or six times a week with Alexandroupolis in Thrace and with Cavalla, Mytilene, Yannina, Calamata, Larissa and Kozani, and four times a week with Agrinion. Cost of air travel is roughly one and a half to double single bus, or 1st class steamer fare, and about one and a half times for return fares.

By Sea : See pages 66-68 and 122-154. With rare exceptions, sailings from the Piraeus to parts of the mainland have no advantage over other forms of transport. Sea passages are essential for the many islands of the Aegean and Ionian seas.

Road Speed. The mountainous nature of the Greek countryside, though making it scenically enchanting, results in roads being winding and with many hairpin bends as well as with continuous ascents. Time reckoned to cover distances must bear this well in mind. Buses, with stops, although keeping up a good speed, cover an average 35 40 klms per hour (22-28 m.p.h.). Motor coaches are not faster. Travel by car, in spite of the fact that all main roads are well surfaced, is scarcely faster, and 50 klms. or 30 miles in an hour can be considered a good average for almost the whole of the country's main roads.

MOTOR COACH TOURS

There are several Motor Coach Tours companies, but the two whose annual programmes are readily obtainable at hotels and elsewhere are the Key Tours and the CHAT. The Key Tours are run by the cooperation of several well known travel agencies. As well as half day coach excursions to Sounion, to Corinth and to Marathon battle-field, both companies run whole day and many-day tours to a vast selection of places of outstanding interest. Several tours arrange a stop for bathing.

One Day Tours : It is difficult to advise the visitor with but a single day available for a coach tour at his disposal, whether to choose Delphi or the Argolis tour. The Argolis tour may be a little more comprehensive, but Delphi may be more appealing. One of the Delphi tours includes a visit to the Byzantine monastery of Ossios Loukas, well worth while. Delphi itself has much to show, and nowhere can the spirit of classical Greece be more effectively sensed. The site of Delphi is awe-inspiring, majestic and beautiful. Delphi has an ancient theatre, a famous stadium, second in importance only to Olympia, and a temple to show, as well as a museum, small but with supreme art treasures. The Argolis tour on the other hand, includes a fascinating run along the shores of the Saronic Gulf, to ancient Corinth, which is visited and has much to show. From Corinth the tour visits Mycenae with its thrill of Homeric times and a civilisation a thousand years earlier than that of classic Greece. It passes through Argos and Tiryns whose civilisations were equally old as that of Mycenae, and goes to Nauplion, first capital of Greece after the war of Independence, where there are most interesting Venetian vestiges. After lunch the tour visits Epidauros with its well preserved theatre which held, and still holds, some 17,000 spectators, and with its museum containing many remains from the temple to Asklepios, God of Healing. In spring the ancient stadium of Epidauros is covered with a carpet of anemonies. Cost of Tours each, \$8.35 including lunch.

Two Day Tours : There are also Motor Coach Tours of two days both to Delphi and to Argolis with prices ranging from \$13.35 to \$17 according to hotel accommodation. In the height of summer the two day tours are to be recommended if your time allows it.

Once a week, there is a most attractive tour which embraces both Delphi and Olympia, two of the most famous classic sites of

Greece. These two centres, differing so much in nature, were those where all Greeks met on common ground, conscious of their Hellenic affinity. Both had their origin and religious significance in their aspiration for Peace. Another two day tour, every Sunday, covers Argolis and the Isle of Aegina. Cost : \$20 to \$23.

Three Day Tours: One Tour gives the opportunity to visit Delphi, Corinth and Argolis, including Epidauros, from which last place the alternative is offered of returning to Athens by proceeding to New Epidauros and thence by steamer to visit the Isle of Aegina, and return via the Piraeus (supplement \$6). Normally twice a week in summer. An attractive three day tour, every Thursday, covers Salamis, Corinth and proceeds to Olympia via the southern shores of the Gulf of Corinth and returns via Argolis. \$37 to \$44.

Four Day Tours: These are comprehensive tours which cover most outstanding classical sites of ancient Greece in a circular tour, the one company favouring a clockwise tour, and the other one the tour in the opposite direction, cost being from \$34 to \$50. The tours run once a week (on Wednesdays) in each direction. They cover Daphni - Eleusis - Corinth - Mycenae - Nauplion - Epidauros - Tripolis - Olympia - Patras - Naupactos - Delphi and Ossios Loucas.

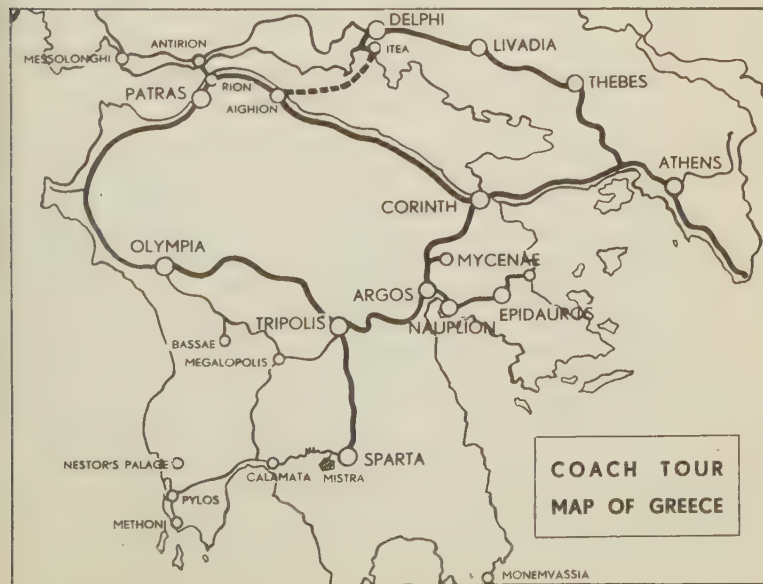
Five Day tours: Both companies also run a weekly tour, similar to the four-days one, but with the addition of a visit to Sparta and the old Byzantine centre of Mistra. One of the tours includes a deviation on the return journey, to Xylocastro on the southern shores of the Gulf of Corinth for relaxation and a possible bathe \$48 - \$60. An ambitious five day tour, after visiting Argolis and proceeding to Olympia via Tripolis goes on to Patras, crosses from the Peloponnesos to the mainland, via the Rion - Antirion ferry and thence goes through Missolonghi, north through Arta with its attractive Byzantine bridge and on to Yannina with its beautiful lake and incredible, almost mile long cave, unrivalled for its diversity of stalactites and stalagmites. Thence, going east, amid wild mountain scenery it visits the monasteries of Meteora, thus called as they are perched almost sky high on inaccessible rugged rocks. Finally the tour visits Delphi and thence back to Athens \$55.

A Six Day Tour, starting on Friday is particularly attractive for as well as including Delphi and other places of interest in the Peloponnesos, it visits the Temple of Apollon at Phygalia, of which

the architect was Iktinos, who was also the architect of the Parthenon of Athens, includes the magnificent colourful Bay of Pylos (also called Navarino) closeby to which the remains of the Homeric Palace of King Nestor is visited, recently excavated, and as thrilling as Mycenae, its contemporary. On the return journey this tour ascends over the Taygetos range to about 4,000 ft, between Calamata and Sparta, which together with Byzantine Mistra are also seen. Cost \$ 75. The same tour as a five day tour, starting on Fridays, does not include Delphi, which suits those who wish to visit it separately.

COMBINED AIR AND MOTOR COACH TOURS

A Three Day Tour to Crete and Rhodes, on Tuesdays and Thursdays, is exceptionally attractive as it covers both Cnossos in Crete and Lindos in the Isle of Rhodes, two of the most noteworthy sights that Greece has to offer. Another tour, made possible by the inclusion of air travel is a three day tour to Corfu and Yannina both of which are superb scenically. \$ 60.



TOURING BY CAR

Compared with a very few years ago the main roads of Greece have been improved out of all recognition, and their surface is in a very good condition. Roads have been constructed with a purely touristic purpose. Both widening and straightening is going on all over the country. Not only are routes being shortened by extensive by-passes, such as the one through the Vale of Tempe, which will help cut the Athens-Salonica road by some 100 klms, but they will allow a far higher average of miles per hour. There are none the less few main routes which do not necessitate ascending over mountain passes, the main exceptions being the road to Patras and Olympia, as well as that to Argos and Nauplia, but even these are full of bends. Entirely new roads are also being constructed such as the one, now completed, down the east coast of the Peloponnesos. The ferry-boat service from Itea (the port of Delphi) to Aigion on the southern shores of the Gulf of Corinth will facilitate the inclusion both of Delphi and of Olympia in a two days visit, and should function by the summer of 1959.

REFERENCE TO PLACES OF INTEREST AND MOTOR ROUTES

In the following pages, 77 to 121 the places of interest are listed with a short description, and those which are junctions are given an index number. The name of each place is followed in brackets by the index numbers of the places through which the route passes. By referring to these numbers, shown on the motoring map, the motorist can know not only the description and attraction of the place in question, but also the places of interest en route. This has the advantage that it prevents excursions being duplicated. A motorist, for instance, who might plan to visit Monemvassia (the Malmsey of old) will find that he can also see, en route, Daphni, Eleusis, Corinth, Mycenae, Argos, Lerna, Sparta and Mistra, and that he need not plan a separate trip to any of these. Similarly he will see that if he plans motoring to Pylos, he can visit on the way, after Tripolis, either Megalopolis or Sparta or go one way and return the other.

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| 29. MOENIVASIA | 40. AIGION |
| 30. MIERA | 41. MISSOLOGHI |
| 31. XYLOCASTRON | 42. KARPENISSI |
| 32. NEPEA | 43. FARSALA |
| 33. TEGEA | 44. KARDITSA |
| 34. MEGALOPOLIS | 45. TRIKALA |
| 35. ITHOMI | 46. METEORA |
| 36. IKORONI | 47. KATERINI |
| 37. METHONI | 48. VERRIA |
| 38. KYLLINI | 49. POLIOPTROS |
| 39. KALAVRYTA | |



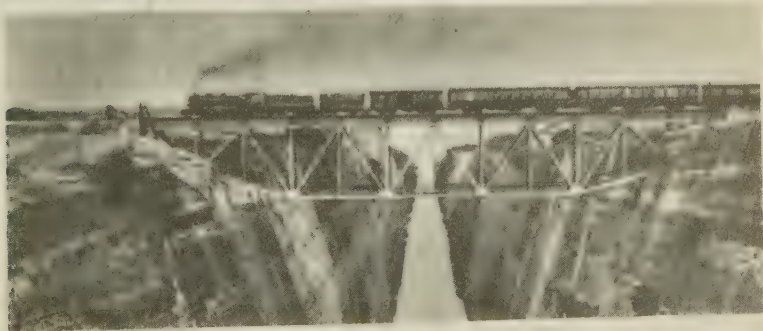
THE PELOPONNESOS

THE PELOPONNESOS, or as it is now more commonly called, the Peloponnese, means literally the Isle of Pelops, a mythical hero. It is joined to the mainland by a narrow isthmus through which the Corinth canal was cut in the end of last century. In early times the Peloponnese had a civilisation prior to the descent of the Achaeans, when Athens was virtually unknown. In the second millenium B. C. it was influenced by trade with the Minoans.

The Peloponnese is also closely connected with the demi-God Heracles (Latin: Hercules) who traditionally refounded the Olympic Games. Later, around the seventh century B. C., statuary found its birth in Argos, commerce and opulence in Corinth and military discipline in Sparta. Here too, after Alexander the Great, Aigion became the capital of the Achaean League, a federation which in a sense is a prototype of the Federal Governments of the United States and of Switzerland. Although the Peloponnese escaped the Persian invasions, it was mercilessly pillaged by the Romans, underwent the scourge of the Crusaders, was conquered by the Venetians and the Turks, and after having ignited the spark for the War of Independence of 1821, was looted by the hordes of Ibrahim Pasha whose intent was to depopulate it.

In the centre of the Peloponnese lies Arcadia, the glens and glades and the bubbling brooks of which the ancient Greeks populated with the nymphs and fawns of their phantasy.

All this history has left its treasured remains framed in the same land of sunshine and of sea-caressed shores, of myth and of magic.



67. The Corinth Canal

After leaving Athens by the Sacred Way, which is joined at Daphni, we come in 20 mins. to:

(1) Eleusis. (Elefsis). 21km. (13 mls.) Pop. 11,500. See page 64.

(2) Corinth. (-1) 85 kms. (53 mls.) 1.1/2-1.3/4 hrs. (bus, 10 a day. 2 hrs). Sing. Drs. 33. Ret. 50. After leaving Eleusis almost the whole route is along the coast right close to the sea, Bathing spots are at Megalo Pefko

(33 kms.), at Kinetta (56 km.) and at 61 km. Other restaurants are before and at Aghii Theodori (65 km.). The Corinth canal is crossed at km. 79. Hotels : Cat A.: Bellevue, Korinthos.

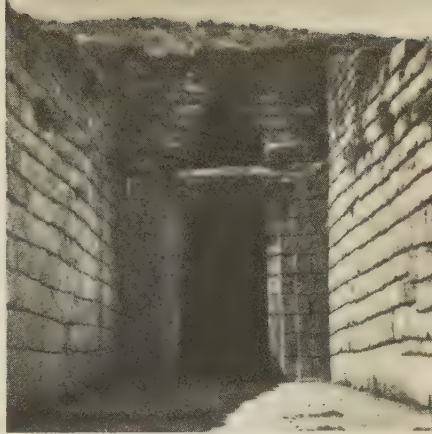
Ancient Corinth lies four miles beyond the modern town, Taxis from Corinth with 1 hr. stay, about 60 Dr. (Buses: 8 a day, 20 mins. Dr. 3.50). In ancient times Corinth was the richest mercantile City with a key geographical position. It was also the mother City of Syracuse and Corcyra (Corfu). Vessels arriving at either end of the Isthmus were pulled across on rollers. Corinth was famed for its luxurious living and its courtesans of whom the most beautiful was Laïs. To many, however, its greatest interest is the connection of St. Paul, who as well as his Epistle, preached in Corinth.

With the fall of Corinth to the Romans in 146 B.C. the whole of Greece became Roman. The museum covers many periods and includes the recent finds of Lerna in Argolis. The ruins of the agora are extensive, and as well as the civic centre, and sites of shops, include the famous spring Peirene. There are standing columns of a temple to Apollon, and the ruins of a theater. Ancient Corinth lies on a slope a mile or two from the sea which it overlooks, but behind, to the south, towers the 1800 ft. high rock. of Acrocorinth. The tourist Pavilion has a fine restaurant.

(3) Argos (1-2). 134 km. (84 mls.). From Corinth 50 km, 50 mins. Argos is the seat of one of the oldest civilisations prior to classical times and richest in legendary fame. In a sense it was here that statuary first took its classical form with emphasis, however, on the bronze nude male figure. Though it has a good museum, fairly well preserved remains of a theatre, as well as some classical vestiges



68. Corinth. Temple of Apollon



Mycenae : 69. The Lions Gate 70. The Tomb of the Atridae

including an ancient agora, it is not much visited, probably because of far greater attractions not far away. Recent excavations, however, have brought much of interest to light. There are a fair amount of bends on the road from Corinth. At 31 klms. there is a branch road to the right leading 5 miles away to the site of ancient **Nemea**, famous of old for its Games. Ruins of a temple of Zeus. It continues to Lake Stymphalia and the Gulf of Corinth.

Mycenae (1.-2.) 131.7 klms (85 mls.) 2.1/2 hrs. By Bus to Fihitia, Drs. 48., where a branch road to the left, of 4 klms, leads to the ancient citadel of Mycenae, City of King Agamemnon, King of the Greek host which laid war to Troy to avenge the abduction of most beautiful Helen. It is considered one of the sights of Greece. For a better understanding of Mycenae it is necessary to visit the Archaeological Museum at Athens where its treasures are shown. Built, according to legend by Perseus, it flourished between about 2,000 and 1,400 B.C. The Kings of Mycenae were the feudal overlords of the Peloponnesos. Its tombs and treasures were first unearthed by Heinrich Schliemann in 1876. A full hour should be reckoned to see the acropolis of Mycenae and the tombs of the Atridae. The view from the acropolis, over the distant surrounding mountains is colourful. The Tourist Pavilion has 8 beds and a good restaurant. The Belle Helene Hotel (Cat. E.) is a mile distant on the branch road. From Fihitia the main road is a straight run to Argos.

Tiryns (1-2-3.) 145 klms (91 mls.). The ruins of this historic mighty citadel arise 8 klms. beyond Argos. Its walls are constructed of giant «Cyclopean» monoliths. Underground tunnels still exist, and murals which are in the Athens museum.

(4.) Nauplion (Nafplion). 149 klms. (93 mls.) 3 hours. By bus 3.1/2 hrs. 10 times a day. Sing. Drs. 56. Ret. 99. Pop. 8,500. Prehistoric City. Fortified first by the Franks, then by the Venetians and Turks, and is

dominated by the old castle of Palamidi. In 1822 it became the headquarters of the War of Independence and then the first capital of modern Greece. The old Fort of Bourzi, which is now a Cat. A. Hotel, seems to float a few hundred yards out in the Bay. During the week ends of the Epidauros Festival (June - July) hotels must be booked well in advance. Good bathing at Tolon, 11 klm distant. Hotels : Cat. A. Amphitryon, Bourzi. Other hotels : Neon, Grande Bretagne, Asklepios and Semiramis. Restaurants in the main square.



71. Nauplion

72. Bourzi Isle. Once a Venetian Fort. Now an Hotel



THEATRE OF EPIDAUROS AND TEMPLE OF ASKLEPIOS

Theatre Of Epidauros (1-2-3-4) 167 klms. (104 mls). 3.1/2—3.3, 4 hrs. From Nauplion 28 klms. It is one of the very largest of ancient Greece and one of the best preserved, holding 17,000 spectators. The old port of Epidauros lies on the southern shores of the Saronic Gulf at 38 klms. from Nauplion, but after the 24th klm, a turning to the right takes you to the Asklepion and the theatre, 4 klms distant. An alternative approach in summer is by sea, landing at the haven of New Epidauros, a little to the north of the old port, and then under half an hour's run to the theatre. At the Asklepion there is an ancient stadium and many remains of the temple of the God of Healing in smiling fir-covered land. The museum has many most interesting remains of the temple. There is a large tourist pavilion (with 6 beds). Otherwise put up in Nauplion.



73. The Sun sets. The play begins. The Choros appears

The Festival of Epidauros

In June and July a festival of ancient plays is held on Saturdays and Sundays. The dramas of Aeschylus, Sophocles and Euripides and some of the comedies of Aristophanes are played by the National Theatre of Greece, whose performances can truly be described as superlative, with a chorus which is unrivalled. The plays start at seven thirty, that is about sun-down and are flood-lit. The acoustics are so remarkable that a match lit in the centre of the circular stage can be heard equally clearly at the furthest topmost tier, and microphones are quite unnecessary. Though the plays are in modern Greek, they are just as popular to those who do not understand the language. Tickets should be obtained well in advance for some plays, and range up to 100 Drs.. Apart from cars there are plenty of motorcoaches for the plays, and parking arrangements are well organised. It is advisable to arrive at least an hour before the performance, and to book a table at the Amphitryon at Nauplia for supper. Most visitors stop on the way before Corinth for a bathe, or take the early boat from the Piraeus to New Epidauros and bathe at the latter, for which arrangements are made with the coaches that take you on to the theatre.



74. Epidauros. Nature is the stage

Epidauros Festival. 75. Lysistrata 76. Hecuba

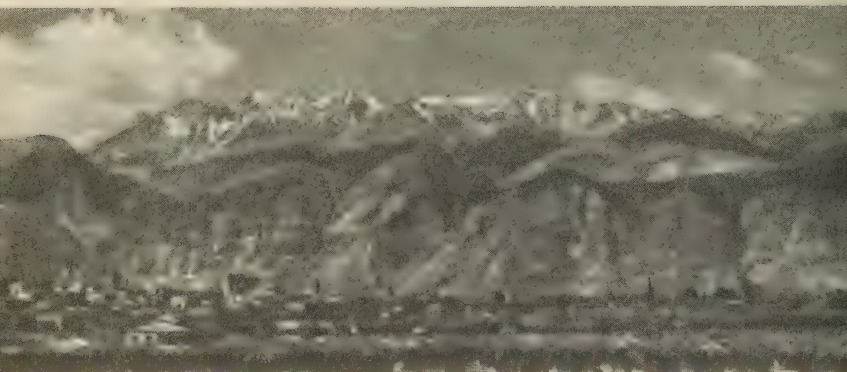


(5) **Tripolis** (1-2-3) 199 klms. (125 mls.) Alt. 2150 ft. A town of 30,000 pop. The capital of Arcadia. It lies on an elevated plateau in a key junction point for the whole of the Peloponnesos, with main roads radiating to Corinth and the mainland, to Sparta and the south east, to Megalopolis, Calamata and the south west, and to Pyrgos, Olympia, Patras and the north west. Although Tripolis is but 62 klms. (38 mls.) beyond Argos, over an hour and a half must be reckoned for there are two stretches of 10 and 17 klms. with ascents and bends. 5 klms. after Argos, to the right, a two mile road leads to the source of the Erasinos at **Kephalari**, where a church is built in a cave and in Spring is most colourful with wisteria and mimosa, and worth a few minutes deviation. 5 klms beyond the Kephalari branch road, near Myli, lies the site of ancient **Lerna**, about 100 yards to the left of the Argos-Tripolis road. All that can be seen from the road is a roofing covering the site. Lerna was recently unearthed by the American School of Classical Studies and is of great archaeological interest since neolithic and proto-Helladic remains have been found. A visit requires but 5-10 minutes. Hotels at Tripolis: Cat. A. Menelaon, Semiramis, Arcadia. Cat. B.: Acropol, Neon.

(6) **Sparta** (1-2-3-5.) 264 klms. (165 mls). 6 hrs. By bus 7 hrs. From Tripolis it is 65 klms, but although the road surface is good two good hours must be reckoned owing to the many bends. Sparta is a pleasant provincial town on the site of the famous ancient war-like City, on the banks of the Eurotas though the ancient remains are of not great interest. The ancient vestiges consist of traces of the Acropolis, a **theatre** and temple of Athena. The museum is of fair interest. Sparta lies in a broad fertile valley of olive and orange groves, dominated to the south by the towering range of the Taygetos which reaches 8,000 feet. The latter part of the Tripolis-Sparta road looks down on the Eurotas valley. Leaving



77. The Head of Hygieia by Scopas



78. The Taygetos range dominates the Eurotas valley

Tripolis, at 9 klm., and one klm. to the left lies **Tegaea** on the site of the powerful ancient City built by the Theban Epaminondas. There are remains of the temple of Athena Alea, which was one of the finest temples of the Peloponnesos, and of which the statues were by the famous sculptor Scopas. Of these the head of Hygeia has been preserved. The small museum is interesting and the reconstructed Byzantine church contains some good mosaics. Hotels at Sparta: Cat. B.: Menelaion. Cat. C.: Mystras. It is advisable to book in advance.

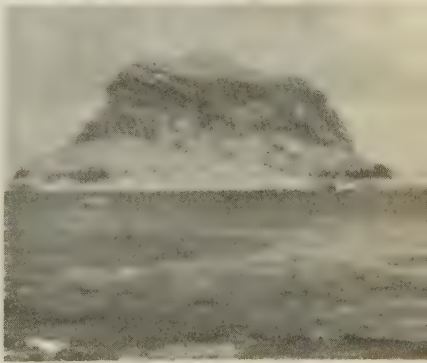
Mistra (or Mystra) (1-2-3-5-6). The remains of a mediaeval small City of the 14th and 15th centuries at less than 5 miles from Sparta on a steep spur of the Taygetos. It is today the main interest of a visit to Sparta. In the 13th century, the Frankish overlords of the Peloponnesos, the Villehardouins, ruled from the castle palace built on the top of the spur. The hill is girt by a rampart within which the site is covered with mediaeval ruins, particularly of many Byzantine small churches, the interiors of which are covered with religious paintings. The monastery of Pantanassa, half way up to the palace, still has a few nuns, and is worth the twenty minutes ascent. Mistra is one of the most interesting places of Greece and attracts many visitors. Over an hour must be reckoned to see it, to roam about with some climbing. The view over the Eurotas valley is serene and beautiful. There is a feeling that one is in a sleeping City which might, but never will awake. Its great destruction was at



Mistra. 79. & 80. Two aspects of Pantanassa Monastery church

the hands of the hordes of Ibrahim Pasha. There is a good pavilion and restaurant within a few yards of the entrance, at reasonable prices. Postcards and mementos can also be bought at the convent of Pantanassa half way up the hill.

Monemvassia (1 2-3-5-6) 361 klms. (226 mls.) From Sparta 97 klms (61. mls.) 3 to 3.1 2 hrs. The first 24 klms. are straight and well surfaced, after which branch to left. The remainder is fair, but being repaired. Monemvassia is a small island rock which resembles Gibraltar, and is connected to the mainland by a short bridge. The name means "only one entrance". It was first fortified in the 6th century A. D., and became a formidable stronghold during the whole of the Byzantine era. From the shore nothing but a bare rock



Monemvassia 81. The Church of St. Sophia on the summit 82. The Rock. The bridge is on the left, entrance extreme right

can be seen, but as soon as the bridge is passed, you enter the fortified bastions and see that the whole south is girt by ramparts which surround an almost deserted old townlet. A ten minute stiff climb takes you to the top where there is an interesting Byzantine church. In the inhabited part below there are many fascinating alleyways and churches of the 17th century. There is a café on the island, but the present Monemvassia with less than a thousand inhabitants lies ashore. There is a restaurant, but it is as well to order your fish before visiting the island, for which you must reckon a good hour. There is a Cat. E. hotel, but a new one is being planned.

Gythelon (1-2-3-5-6) 310 klms (194 mls). By bus, Sing. Drs 115 Ret. 195. is 46 klms beyond Sparta (3/4hr.) and is the main road south. Gytheion, pop 6,500 is the port of Lacedaemonia where traditionally Paris spent the first night with beautiful Princess Helen, after having abducted her from King Menelaos of Sparta. Hotels at Gytheion: Kranai, Aktaion and Pantheon. The road continues 25 klms. to **Areopolis** whence it continues along the west coast of the peninsula a further 27 klms. to **Gerolimín**. This last lap is scenically rugged and captivating. In 1958 remarkable caves were discovered some with entrances only from the sea.

(7) **Calamata** (**Kalamai** in Greek) (1-2-3-5, or 1-2-3-5-6) 295 klms (184 mls). (324 klms via Sparta). From Tripolis via Megalopolis 95 klms. 2 1/4 hrs. A town of 40,000 pop. and the chief export port of the county of Messenia. Produces Greece's best figs and olives and also currants. Except for the last 20 klms. the road is mountainous but well surfaced.

Megalopolis, 37 klms. from Tripolis. It is an ancient City built by Theban Epaminondas. Of great interest is the ancient theatre, which is less than 1 klm. to the right from the Square and close to the modern cemetery. It is fairly well preserved and was the largest of ancient Greece, holding 20,000 spectators. It overlooks an "Arcadian scene".

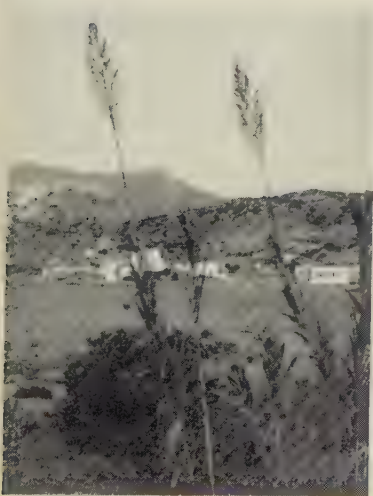
Calamata via Sparta is an alternative route 29 klms. longer, but one of the very finest scenic roads in all Greece. It is 60 klm. 2 hrs. It crosses the Taygetos at 4,000 ft, at first winding through rugged gorges, and then through "Alpine" pine forests. The first half of the road is in poor condition, but the remainder is fair. Inadvisable to attempt it from end of October to end of March. Calamata hotels Cat. A.; Rex. Others: Ameriki, Grand Bretagne, Lefkos Ikos.



83. Andritsaina. Plain tree



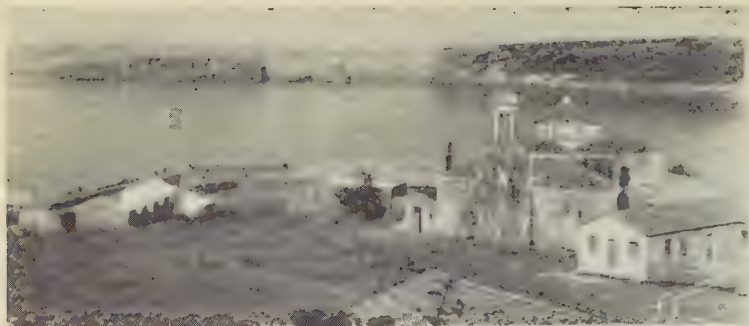
84. Pylos. Nestor's Palace



85. Cythera. Sea front



86. Methone. Outer tower



87. Byzantine Church in Navarino port



88. Koroni. The mediaeval castle



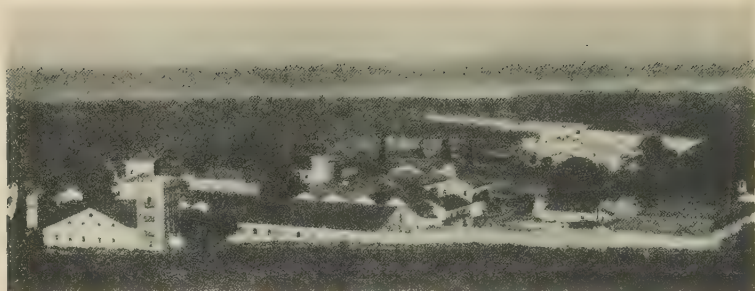
89. The Taygetos range in winter

(8.) Pylos also called **Navarino**. (1-2-3-5, or 1-2-3-5-6-7) 335 klms (218 mls). Add 16 klms if Calamata is to be visited. Without stops, 7 hrs. Via Sparta and Calamata, 9 1/2 hrs. Pylos is a most attractive townlet of 3,400 pop., built in 1829 at the entrance to a vast land-locked bay in which the battle of Navarino was fought in October 1827, when the combined fleets of Britain, France and Russia sank the Turkish - Egyptian fleet, thus contributing to the success of the Greek War of Independence. Opposite, forming the Bay, is the elongated island of Sphacteria with the rocky islet of Sphakia like the point to an exclamation mark, at the very entrance. Here, in 425 B.C., the Athenians overcame the Spartans to mark the first time in the latter's history that they surrendered instead of fighting to the last man. The huge Bay is serenely attractive. A motor boat trip to the islands is pleasant. Pylos is the centre for visiting the ruins of the ancient Palace of King Nestor, interesting and beautifully situated. Hotels: Cat. B: Nestor's. Others: Navarino, Trion Navarhon.

Methone 13 klms. south of Pylos, by a second class but fair road. About 20 mins. In mediaeval times known as Modon, and was then a harbour of importance. Its castle was built in 1217 A.D. and though in a somewhat crumbling condition is still most impressive. In the 1821 war the Egyptian Ibrahim Pasha quartered a whole army within its walls. Methone has a fine sandy beach.

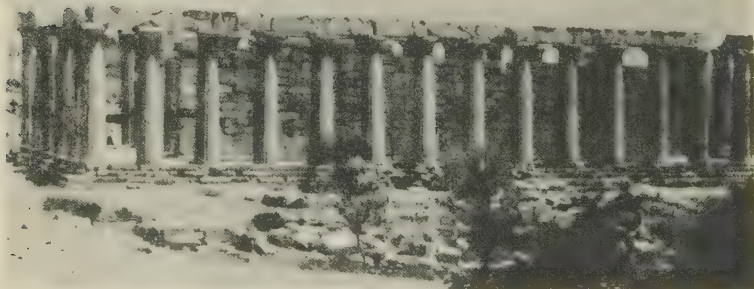
Korone (1-2-3-5, or 1-2-3-5-6-7.) 337 klms. (211 mls.). 55 klms beyond Calamata. At Rizomylos, 25 klms beyond Calamata on the Pylos road, branch left. Korone is 30 klms to the south at the end of an attractive but very poor road. It is an attractive townlet on the sea, boasting of a commanding mighty mediaeval castle.

Ithome (1-2-3-5) 290 klms (181 mls.) A walled city built at the beginning of the 4th cent. B.C., on the traditional stronghold of the Messenians. It is advisable to visit Ithome, locally known as *Ma-vromati*, from Messene. You may find nothing to eat at Ithome, and it is advisable to have a meal either at Calamata or Pylos. Ithome is beautifully situated on a cup rim overlooking a sloping view to the distant sea to the south and Arcadia to the north. It has a small theatre, an agora and many of the ancient bastions built of huge monoliths. A good hour is required to visit the sites. Ithome is a show place of the future.



90. Achaia Winertes overlooking the Bay of Patras

(9.) Patras (12.) 221 klms. (138 mls.). 4. 1/4 hrs. Pop. 90.000. Bus: 5. hrs. Sing. Drs. 84. Ret. 121. A busy commercial port but also a residential city. Patras attracts Athenian society for the last Sunday of carnival. The birthplace of St. Andrew who established the first Christian church there. It has an ancient history but its antiquities are of only small interest. Four miles inland the wineries of Gutland are interesting and have a fine view. Patras is 135 klms from Corinth and there can be few, if any coastal roads in the world to surpass its colourful serene beauty. Except for a very few kiloms. this road hugs the coast. Hotels at Patras: Cat. A : Cecil, Majestic, Splendid. Cat. B. : Anglias. Others : Delphi. Ellas, Ilion, Metropolis, Vasilikon, Aroi.



91. The Temple of Apollon at Phigalia



92. Calavryta : Aghia Lavra



93. Megaspoleon Monastery

Corinth - Patras road. The coastal plane is brightly green in summer with the seedless Grape of Corinth vineyards, and fruit bearing trees. In part the mountains drop steeply into the bluest of blue seas and the road winds along the fir-covered spurs. The Gulf is not many miles wide, and mountains, including the massive bulk of Parnassos, abode of Eros, arise in rugged skyline along its northern shores. From the coast there are several inland mountain roads. One at Kiato, ancient Sicyon, 22 klm. from Corinth leads to the Stymphalian lake and Goura (see p. 170). at the foot of Mt. Ziria (of old Mt. Cyllene) almost 8.000 ft high. Another road winds upward inland from **Xylocastro**, 34 klm. from Corinth to Ano Trikala, close to which winter sports are held early in the year. Xylocastro has pine covered shores harbouring a holiday camp, and also a Tourist Pavilion on the beach for meals and bathing. Xylocastro hotels: Cat. A.: Apollon. Cat. C.: Pefkias, Valkania, Villa Dhasos. At **Diakofto**, 80 klms from Corinth a rack and cog mountain railway takes you inland through the Vouraikos gorge to Zachlorou, whence a forty minutes ascent by mule brings you to the monastery of the Great Cave, or **Megaspoleon**. Its site in a cave at the bottom of a precipitous rock makes it noteworthy, but the centuries old monastery was burnt in the last war and has been reconstructed without its old fascination. The mountain railway proceeds, in all some 20 klms to its terminus of **Calavryta** close to which is the 10th century A.D. monastery of Aghia Lavra where the flag of



94. & 95. Kyllene ; The Beach and Holiday Camp.

Independence was first raised in 1821. Calavryta hotel Cat. B. Helmos.

Aighion 179 klms. (113 mls.). 3 1/2 hrs. From Corinth 94 klms. Pop. 17,000. Known also as Vostizza. It has a long and glorious history but very few archaeological excavations have been made. Built on three levels, the central Square of Ypsila Alonia on the top level has a commanding view of almost the whole of the Gulf of Corinth. Aighion is to be joined in the summer of 1959 with Itea, the port of Delphi, by ferry boat. A tourist pavilion is being built. Beyond Aighion the road has been widened. At Lambiri, 11 km there is a French-run delightful holiday camp on the brink of the sea. At 127 klms. from Corinth, and just before Patras there are the twin Venetian forts which command the entrance to the Gulf of Corinth at its narrowest; on the southern shores the fort of **Rion**, and on the northern that of **Antirion**. Now they are terminals of a ferry boat service. The ferry-boats ply every hour at the hour, and in some summer months every half hour. After 7 p. m. there are only very rare departures. From Patras itself there is a road southwards to Calavryta, 88 klms. (55 mls.), most of which is at an elevation of 2-3000 ft. and passes through many picturesque villages.

(10.) Pyrgos (1-2-9) 321 klms. (201 mls.). 6-6 1/2 hrs or, (1-2-3-5) 341 klms. 7 1/2 - 8 hrs. Pop. 21,000. Unless intending to visit the Argolis region, or Sparta, first, the shorter and northern route is to be recommended. From Pyrgos, apart from the Patras road, one leads to the nearby port of Catacolo. another to Tripolis via Olympia, and



96. & 97.. Olympia : The ceremony of the Sacred Flame

another, less good, to Andritsaina and Megalopolis, while a new road going south to Kyparissia and Pylos should be ready by the summer of 1960. Hotels at Pyrgos : Cat. B.: Dhiethnes. Others: Xenias, Emperikon, Kentron. The road from Patras, 98 klms. follows the coast for the first 22 klms, but after that is of no particular interest. At klm. 66, at Lechaina, there is a 12 klm. branch road to the right to **Cyllene** (pron. Killini) famous of old for its sound coinage, and then, as now for its thermal baths. It now boasts a «canvass village» holiday camp with bungalows, and with one of the finest beaches of Greece. In the middle ages it was known as Clarentza, and according to some authorities it was from here, through Margaret of



98. Olympia : The Cronion Hill and the Alpheos Valley



Olympia Museum : 99. Hermes by Praxiteles. 100. Reconstructed Victory of Paeonios. 101. Apollon from Heraion Pediment.

Hainault, that the Dukes of Clarence derived their title. An hour from Cyllene is the castle of Chlemoutsi, or the Kastro tis Oraias, the Castle of the Beautiful Maiden, which has inspired many ballads.

Pyrgos - Tripolis Road 155 klms. (97 mls.). 3.1/2 - 4 hrs. This road, at 22 klms beyond Pyrgos passes through OLYMPIA. Just before reaching Olympia a branch to the left leads 102 klms to Calavryta, and 188 mls, to Patras. After 60 klms the Tripolis road ascends to 3,400 ft. before finally dropping to 2150 ft. at Tripolis itself. At 84 klms it passes through **Langadia** (3,600 ft.) amid pine woods, and at 108 klms **Vytina**. Hotel Cat. A : Villa Vallos.

Pyrgos - Kyparissia - Pylos Road. Only the first 12 klms of this road is in good condition, the rest is to be constructed by the summer of 1960, it is hoped. 8 klms beyond the 12 km is the Spa of **Kaïafa**, of ancient fame, with remarkable curative waters, especially for liver complaints.

Pyrgos - Andritsaina - Megalopolis Road. 100 klms. (62 mls.). At klm 12 it branches to the left from the Pyrgos-Kyparissia road, and proceeds a further 46 klms to **Andritsaina**, whence a 14 klm new road to the right leads to **Bassae**, to the Temple of Phigalea to Epikourios Apollon. (See Phot. 91). It is well worth a visit being considered among the best preserved temples in Greece, built by Iktinos, architect of the Parthenon at Athens. All its columns are standing.

OLYMPIA

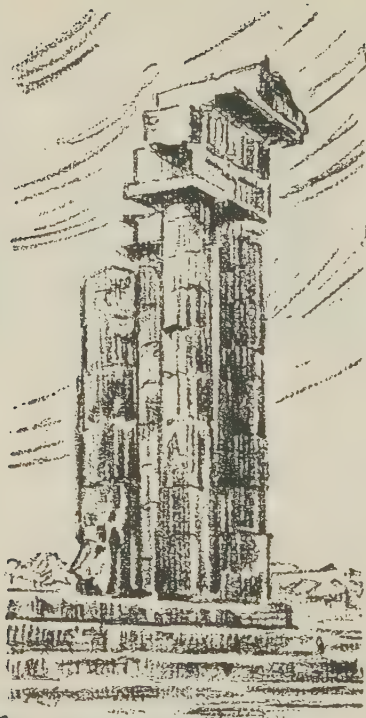
Olympia (1-2-9-10, or 1-2-3-5, or 1-11-12-13-14-14A-9-10) Via Tripolis 329 klm. (206 mls.), by car 7 - 7.1/2 hrs. Via Patras 338 klms (211 mls.), by car 6.1/2 hrs. Via Delphi, Rion-Antirion 426 klms. Via Delphi-Itea-Aighion-Patras, 336 klms of road. By Bus to Pyrgos 7.1/2 hrs. Sing. Drs 110. Ret. 165, whence 23 klms. By automotrice to Olympia 8.1/4 hrs. 1st Cl. Single Drs. 199.

Olympia lies in the valley of the Alpheos brightly smiling with the green of vineyards and pine trees, in gentle undulating land. The wooded hillock of Cronion, 410 ft high, is a gentle climb which gives a fine panoramic view over the classic site, and the surrounding lands intersected with the silvery ribbons of the Alpheos and the Cladeos. Main Hotel: Cat. A.: S.P.A.P.

Excavations at Olympia. These were first undertaken by the German Archaeological Institute in 1875, and more intensively again in the last few years. These recent excavations have cleared the whole track of the 4th cent. stadium, and also discovered the work-room of the greatest of Athenian sculptors, Pheidias, including some of the moulds for the gold robes of his great chryselephantine (gold and ivory) seated statue of Almighty Zeus. There are many drums of columns and some standing, from the ancient temples and buildings. The sacred olive grove, the **Altis** is now covered with golden green pine trees. A concise booklet on Olympia is issued, also post-cards illustrating the reconstructed ancient site. The Museum is rich in artistic treasures, including the Hermes by Praxiteles and the Victory of Paeonios.

The Olympic Games These, reputedly founded by Heracles in the second millenium B.C. were refounded in 776 B.C. as Olympiad One, and this date became the year One of the ancient Greek world. The Olympic Games were held every fourth year. During the whole of the lunar month in which they were held a truce from all warfare was declared binding on all Greek Cities. The Games had a religious origin. Contestants trained for ten months and were taught to Play Fair. The games lasted for over a thousand years and were revived in Athens in 1896. The Sacred Flame which inaugurates all Olympiads of the modern era is lit by the Sun's rays in Olympia.

adel



ENERGOL **VISCO-STATIC**

MOTOR OIL

BRAND

THE ALL-YEAR ROUND LUBRICANT

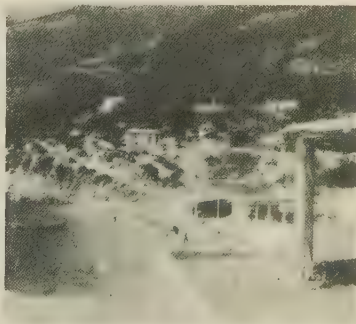
BP products are available at hundreds of supply points
in Athens and throughout Greece.

THE MAINLAND - STEREA HELLAS

Apart from roads serving the villages of Attica, and the Isle of Euboea, there is but one road out of Athens, the ancient Sacred Way that led to the Mysteries of Eleusis. In 1956 it was by-passed for the first 9 klm. by a broad highway. 1 mile beyond Eleusis the road forks, the left serving the Peloponnesos, while the right serves the whole of the North and mainland.

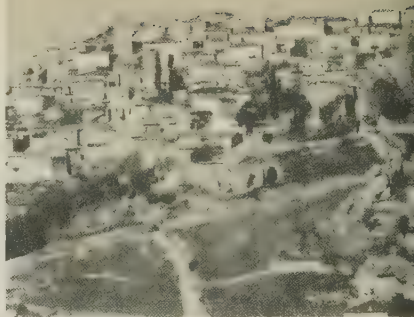
Loutraki (- 1).86 klm. (53 mls.) By bus 2 hrs. Twice daily. Fare. Sing. Drs 33 Ret. 50. The Corinth road crosses over the canal at kilom 80, but a few yards before reaching it, it is possible to continue a further 6 klm. to the Spa of Loutraki which is one of the most popular Greek watering places, having 13 Cat. A. hotels with over 600 beds. The road proceeds thence through Petrahora to the ruins of a temple to Hera, about 18 klm., the view from the promontory compensating those not interested in archaeology.

Villia (- 1).55 klm. (34 mls.) Alt. 1250 ft. 1.1/4 - 1.1/2 hrs. Bus service. At the 50th klm on the main North Road a branch road of 5 klm. to the left leads to the pleasant village of Villia which has some small hotels and houses with paying guests. Up here flowers flourish better than in the hotter Attic plain. On the road from Eleusis, at 40 klm there is a good small restaurant with a view. Beyond Villia, there is a 21 klm road which finally descends to the colourful Bay of **Porto Germeno**, a hamlet with several popular restaurants right on the sea. Ruins of ancient Aegosthenae. Pleasant bathing beach.



102. Chapel on Thebes road.

103. Beach at Porto Germeno



The Delphi Road : 104. - Livadia. 105. Arachova

Thebes (Thivai) (- 1) 71 klms. (44 mls.). 1.1/2 hrs. (By bus 2 hrs. 12 times a day. Sing.: Drs. 26. Ret. 50.). Capital of Boeotia. City of tragic King Oedipus. In the 4th cent. B.C. it achieved the supremacy of Greek Cities, but, with the exception of the house of the poet Pindar, was raised to the ground by Alexander the Great. Of very little archaeological interest. Pop: 13.000. Hotels: Cadmion. Dionysion.

THE ISLE OF EUBOEIA. The main road of the island stretches 280 klms (175 mls.) from N.W. to S.E. It is scenically most attractive with mountains reaching over 5.000 ft. If the South part of the isle is to be visited it is best to motor to Scala Oropos on the North Attic coast (50 klms) and thence proceed by ferry to Nea Psara, the ancient Eretria. Here are some ruins including an interesting ancient theatre. Eretria was destroyed by the Persians in 490 B.C. The ferry plies every one to two hours according to season, and charges 50 Drs for cars. If motoring, however, round by way of Chalkis, it is 130 klms. South, beyond Nea Psara, 49 klms from Chalkis, is Aliveri with a modern hydroelectric generating station. 8 klms further south the main road turns N.E. to the other coast to Kymi, 40 klms beyond. From Kymi there are motor boats to Skyros isle. Carystos lies 80 klms further south of the bend for Kymi, and has interesting ruins. The road north of Chalkis is scenic and leads to **Aidipso Spa** (258 klms from Athens). Euboea has some fine beaches. Chalkis Hotel: Cat. A. A. : Lucy.

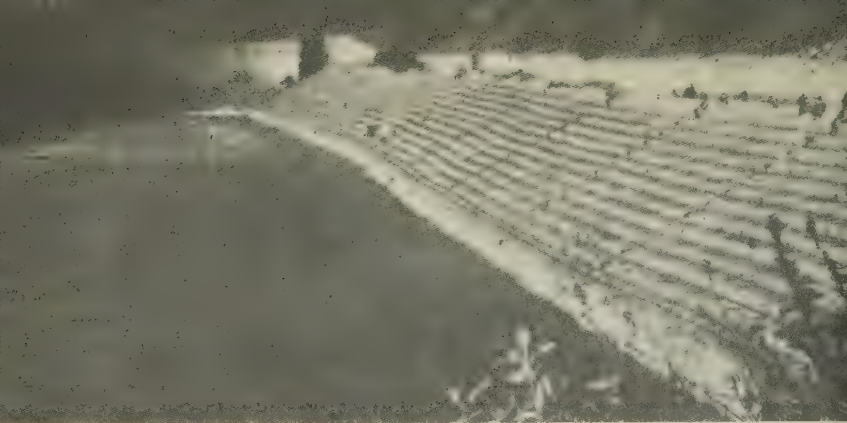
(12.) Livadia (1-11.) 119 klm. (74 mls.) 2.1/2 hrs. Pop. 12.000 Frequent buses. One of the oldest Boeotian Cities. It is a prosperous cotton and agricultural centre at the head of the reclaimed fields of Lake Copaïs. The centre is dominated by a Venetian clock-tower, and behind a 14th cent. castle built on a precipitous slope. The townlet is cleft by a stream which arises from dual springs a few hundred yards from the centre. These are the springs of Lethe and Mnemosyne, that is of Oblivion and Remembrance, which the ancients who consulted the nearby Oracle of Trophonios were enjoined to imbibe. These dual sources, are but five minutes walk from the centre. They are at the entrance to a chasm, with shady plane trees and a small Byzantine arched bridge. In summer the local children bathe there.

Ossios Loukas : At Livadia a road branches to the left leading to Arahova, Delphi, Amphissa, Naupactos, Rion, Missolonghi and the West coast. It is, however, 90 klms longer to Rion by this route than by the road on the South shores of the Gulf of Corinth and by ferry boat from Rion. 19 klms beyond Livadia a branch road leads south to the picturesque bay of Antikyrra. A further turn left less than half way along this road, 13 klms in all, lies the 11th cent. monastery of Ossios Loukas (Holy Luke), which is considered to have the finest Byzantine mosaics in Greece. In spring almond blossoms. The tourist pavilion has nine beds.

Arahova. 38 klms on the Livadia - Delphi road, alt. 3000 ft. A village with a reputation throughout Greece for its coloured rugs.

106 & 107. Ossios Loukas

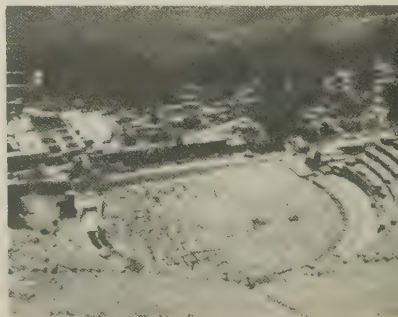




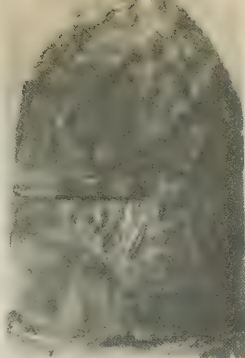
108. The Stadium high above Delphi

DELPHI

(13) Delphi (1-11-12) 163 klms (101 mls.). 4 1/2-hrs by bus twice daily. Alt. over 2,000 ft. Delphi and Olympia were the two great centres of Greek lands where all Greeks met on common ground, conscious of their common heritage and affinity. Whereas Olympia is an open smiling valley, Delphi is perched alight austere in Gothic awe. The ruins and the museum of Delphi are in themselves worth a long journey to visit. Everywhere in Greece where history has played a dramatic role there is an atmosphere that "Time has stood still". Nowhere in Greece, perhaps nowhere else in the world is this



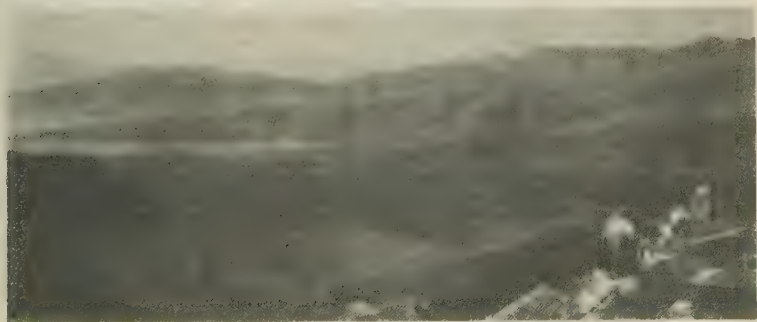
Delphi: 109. Tholos of Athena Pronaia. 110. The theatre overlooking the Temple of Apollon



Delphi : 111. The Treasury of the Athenians. 112. The Navel of the Earth. 113. The Treasury of the Siphnians

feeling more striking than at Delphi. You require but little imagination to see a trail of supplicants coming to consult the Pythian oracle.

Apollón, God of the Sun, of the Arts, and of Order, was the God at whose shrines came supplicants from all Hellenic lands to consult the Gods as to whether their projected venture had Their blessing. Apollon was the intermediary between the supplicants and almighty Zeus, his Father. There were two mediums, the Pythias, who went into a trance uttering wild sounds, interpreted by the prophytes. The Pythias were middle aged women from Delphi. Apollon got his Pythian name from the legend that he slew a mighty serpent or Python whose buried breath was thought to be the exhalations from the ground which intoxicated the Pythias.



114. Delphi. Looking west over a sea of olives

Delphi in ancient times was also the centre of the most famous «Amphictyon». By this was meant a fairly loose federation of the surrounding Cities, sworn to peace between themselves, and with a common army to enforce its ruling.

New arrangements are being made for 1959 whereby instead of as was the case in the past, entrance to the hallowed site will now be from a road above at the level of the stadium, and the visitors will be able to descend thence to the theatre, the Temple of Apollon, the Treasury of the Athenians, and the Museum. Formerly many found the ascent to the top too much of a strain and did not visit the stadium. At the stadium the Pythian Games, second only in importance to those of Olympia, were held the year following the Olympic venue.

The Museum of Delphi contains many treasures, most famous of which is the 5th century B.C. bronze statue of the Charioteer, one of the finest surviving statues of the classical period. The stone which was considered to be the Navel of the World is housed here, also the Winged Sphinx of the Naxians, and the column of the three dancing girls or caryatids. The partly reconstructed entrance to the Treasury of the Siphnians is much admired.

If you can muster the courage try to see the sunrise from the west of Delphi from where there is an unique view over the miles of grey green shimmering olive groves. The mountains assume a pink pearly transparency. If it is a fine day you will be well rewarded. Be

sure to ascertain at what time the Museum is open, for it may be closed over an extended lunch hour. Hotels: Class A.: Delphi, built by the National Tourist Organization. The Hotels Apollon and Castalia (Cat. B.) can also be recommended. There are also other hotels: Ermis and Parnassos, as well as lodging places. The Hotel Apollon has an attractive terrace with awning and a fine view and is recommended for lunch. Phone beforehand and reserve a table.



115. Caryatids.



116. The Charioteer



117. Naupactos. The harbour from the ramparts

Amphissa 189 klm. A townlet of 5000 pop., is 20 klms beyond Delphi. It is dominated by a Frankish castle where once stood the acropolis of ancient Salona. On leaving Delphi the road starts descending to the valley of Chryssa with an exceptional view over the gulf of Corinth to the left and in front a shimmering silvery green sea of an endless olive grove. On reaching the valley a road branches left to **Itea**, 6 klms. distant, the little haven used by those visiting Delphi by sea. When the ferry to Aighion on the southern shores of the Gulf of Corinth operates, it will give a saving of 90 klms. of road between Delphi and Patras. for those who wish to visit both Delphi and Olympia.

Naupaktos 229 klms. (189 mls.). 130 klms. from Delphi. A charming townlet girt by Venetian ramparts, and with a diminutive mediaeval harbour. Where the descending Dorians built their boats to cross to the Peloponnesos (hence the name), and where under the mediaeval name of Lepanto one of the most important naval battles of all times was fought in 1571 when the Spaniards destroyed the Ottoman naval might. Hotels: Rex, Nea Ellas.



118. Missolonghi fishermen

Rion-Antirion Ferry (14 - 14A) Antirion is 14 klms beyond Naupactos, though for those proceeding to the West coast it is bypassed 3 klm to the north. To visit the West coast, however, the road via Delphi and Naupactos is almost 100 klms longer than via Corinth. The Ferry service is from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m., at the hour and from June-Sept. additionally at the half hour and some rare crossings at night. Crossing 20 mins. Charge for cars 35 Drs.

● **Messolonghi** (1-2-14-14A) 256 klms. (160 mls.) From Antirion 45 mins. Famous for the 1826 sortie and siege when the inhabitants blew themselves up rather than surrender. Lord Byron died here. The townlet of 14,000 pop. is built on the brink of a lagoon.

(15) **Agrinion** 295 klms. (197 mls.). Pop. 20,000. Except for Yanina in Epiros, it is the largest town of the west coast of the mainland. It is served by an airport. A road junction for the West and East coasts. The road to Lamia, recently completed, is just under 200 klms., and the first half is mountainous with some of the finest alpine scenery in Greece. At 31 and at 14 klms before Lamia short branch roads lead respectively to the watering places of **Platystomos** and **Ypati** with exceptionally fine curative waters, and good hotels.

Karpenissi (1-11-12-19) 296 klms (185 mls.) From Agrinion 115 klms. On the southern slopes of Mount Tymphritsos (7,600 ft.) and itself located over 3,000 ft. is surrounded by fir woods, with fine views, and excursions, especially to Mikro Horio (an hotel village). Hotels at Karpenissi: Kallithea, Panhellenion, Philoxenia.

Proussos Monastery. One of the most attractive excursions in Greece which will be possible by car from summer of 1959. The monastery church is believed to be prior to the Xth cent. and is built in a small cave over a precipice with a stream at the depth. The road from Agrinion is north of Lake Trihonis to Thermon, which has a classic past, and thence by a 40 klm scenic mountain road which ascends to a pass over 4,500 ft. high and finally zig-zags down to Proussos at about 3,000 ft. The rock formation and colouring makes the scene a Switzerland with a Greek colouring. The monastery has guest rooms, for which there is no charge but you are expected to give a donation. Information can be obtained from the R. Nat. Foundation at 9, Philhellinon, Athens. On August 22 some 15,000 pilgrims visit the monastery—and the Fair.



119. Parga. Waiting to be discovered



120. Dodona. Most ancient oracle of Zeus



121. Arta. The Byzantine bridge

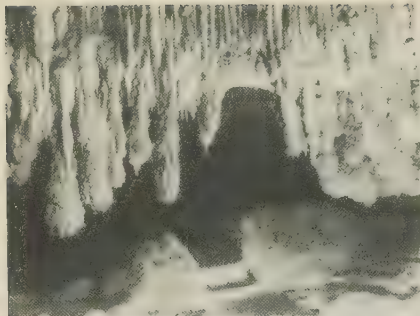


122. Yannina. The old mosque and the lake

(16) Arta (1-2-14-14A-15) 388. klms. (243 mls.). 8 hrs. Buses. The whole of the route from Athens is well surfaced and has no ascents. 12 klms after Agrinion the road crosses the river Acheloos and has a pleasant run, partly among oak trees, to **Amphilohia** generally called Karvassara at the head of the Ambracian Gulf, 59 klms-beyond Agrinion, thence much of the 44 klms to Arta is along the Gulf and an attractive run. Arta itself with a pop. of 15,000 is the capital of a county with interesting Byzantine churches, being once the capital of a Byzantine principality. The church of Parigoritissa, 100 yards from the highway, is worth a visit having a fine mosaic dome and a most unusual architectural interior. Arta's Byzantine bridge is memorable. Otherwise the town has little attraction. Hotel: Anessis.

(17) Yannina, also written **Joannina** (1-2-14-14A-15-16) 466 klms. (291 mls.). 9.1/2 hrs. By bus 11 hrs. Sing. Drs 173. Ret. 250. Pop. 33,000. Alt. 1400 ft. Capital of Epiros. Was joined to Greece after the 1912-13 Balkan wars. A picturesque town on the shores of a lake, with Mt. Mitsikelli of over, 5,000 ft., opposite. The old town, within fortifications, as a peninsula jutting into the lake, is particularly colourful and contains a museum within a former mosque. It is an historically interesting City, being a Byzantine principality in the 13th century, and the headquarters of the amazing Albanian Ali Pasha at the very beginning of the 19th century, an almost legendary figure who was a power feared even throughout all Europe. The road from Arta (78 klms.) is unusually attractive the first part being close to the river Louros across which it passes, and later close to the irrigation and hydro-electric dam. The road then rises to 2,000 ft, with a fairly straight run for the last twelve miles. Hotels Cat B: Akropol, Palladion; Others: Averoff, Ilion, Kypros, Metropolis. A new tourist hotel is being built. Daily Air Service.

Dodona Eight klms before reaching Yannina a fourteen klm branch road to the left leads to Dodona, seat of the most ancient Oracle of Zeus. This oracle originated apparently early in the history of the Northerners' descent into Greek lands, but its exact site remained unknown until comparatively recent times, yet it has interesting remains of a temple and theatre. Aemilius Paulus sacked it in the second cent. B.C., but it continued as an oracle for many years later.



123 & 124. Yannina. The Perama Cave. The Cross is formed by a falling stalactite pinioned on a stalagmite.

The Perama Cave A few minutes beyond Yannina, on the northern end of the lake, there is a low hillock with a cave through it, extending almost a mile in all, which is among the very finest in Europe owing to the extreme diversity of its stalactites and stalagmites. In all places the cave is easily negotiated and has some large "halls". It is worth a visit. Till 1958 it was considered the finest of the 900 registered caves in Greece, but some have now been discovered south of Sparta which when fully explored may surpass it. The Perama cave was rediscovered during 1941 by a shepherd seeking shelter from aerial bombardment.

Yannina - Igoumenitsa road This road which terminates 100 kiloms beyond Yannina on the Ionian sea whence a ferry-boat plys 18 miles to the Isle of Corfu (ferry 2.3/4 hrs) twice a day in summer (once in winter). By 1960, at least one newly constructed ferry boat will be in service linking Greece with Italy (Brindisi) via Corfu. In the meantime the road which is now in a poor condition will be made first class by the summer of 1959, harbour instalations improved, and new hotels erected at both Igoumenitsa and Yannina. The ferries will carry 90 cars, 6 coaches, 1,000 passengers.

Yannina - Albanian frontier. 65 kilms beyond Yannina to the north, the road is iron curtained off by Albania. Some 20 kilms beyond Yannina a branch road leads to the Zagoria villages (see p. 164.) with some unusual and attractive scenery including a canyon.

Arta - Preveza. This 49 klm road starts northwards and then

turns south to the 12,000 pop. townlet of Preveza attractively situated at the entrance to the Ambracian Gulf. 7 klm before reaching it, the road passes the ruins of **Nikopolis**, built in 30 B.C. by Octavius Augustus to mark his victory over Anthony and Cleopatra off its shores at Actium (which is Greek for shore). Saint Paul preached here

Nikopolis - Igoumenitsa. This 107 klm road is unfortunately not yet completed as a motoring road, which is a pity as from Paramythia (70 klms) a 33 klm branch road will lead to the most picturesque seaside village of **Parga**, which can now be visited by coastline vessels.

(18) Metsovo (1-2-14-14A-15-16-17. or 1-11-12 19-21). Via Yannina 524 klms (328 mls.). Via Larissa and Trikala 475 klms. (294 mls). 10 hrs without stops. Alt. 3920 ft. pop. 3,000. A road under construction branching to the left 53 klms north of Lamia, via Karditsa to Trikala will shorten the route by some 36 miles. Metsovo and Yannina can form the apex of a round tour of the mainland of Greece passing some of the finest scenery of the country and much of Byzantine interest, though less of classic attraction. Metsovo has much local colour and a famous house converted into a museum.

* * *

The plan of descriptions for the Mainland has so far been that of branching from the main North Road at Livadia (12) and travelling west through Delphi and then proceeding northwards close



125. Preveza. 126. The Lion of Chaeroneia



127. Village on Mt. Pelion near Volos

to the West coast. The order next chosen resumes at Livadia and proceeds to Salonica and the North.

Orchomenos lies 11 klms beyond Livadia, branching at the 7th klm of the main road. **Chaeronia**, 14 klms from Livadia has interesting ruins but is most famous for its huge marble lion which commemorates the battle of 338 B.C. when Philip of Macedon beat the Athenians and Thebans to continue his victorious march south. At 23 klms beyond Livadia a branch road to the right leads to many places of interest. This road, which is in fact a detour in distance is being planned as the main north road since it avoids the winding ascent of Mt. Callidromos at kilom. 183, occasionally snow-bound in winter. This branch road rejoins the main road at klm 204. At 27 klms after leaving the main road it passes through Atalanti which is scenic, and after a further 37 klms, mostly along the coast facing Euboea reaches the Spa of **Kammena Vourla** which has a Cat A. Hotel: Rhadion, and a Cat B: Thronion. Thence the road proceeds 35 klms through the Spa of **Thermopylae** and close to the famous battlefield of the same name, to join the main road. At 41 klms beyond the above branch road, another, this time to the left branches from Bralo to Amphissa (42 klms) and Itea. This road was constructed by British troops in 1916 but has now deteriorated. When the ferry-boat service between Aighion and Itea functions it will save many miles between the west coast of the Peloponnesos and the North.

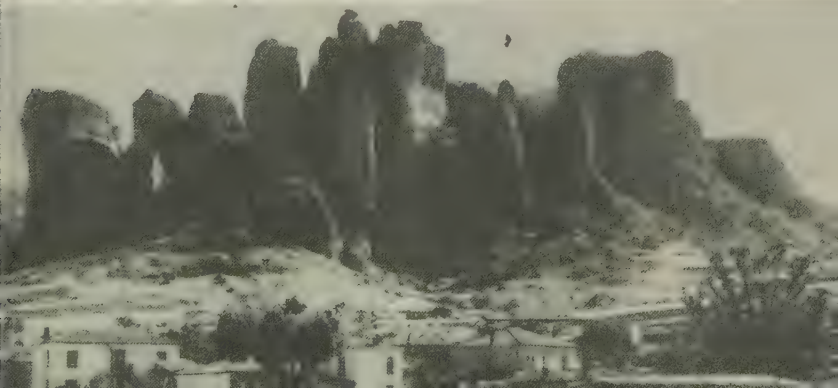
(19) Lamia (1-11-12) 215 klms. (135 mls.) pop. 28,000 A road junction, for, as well as being on the main north road, it has roads radiating to Agrinion on the west coast (198 klms) and Volos (131 klms.). Lamia is an agricultural and industrial centre. Hotels Cat B.: Achillion, Thermopylae.

(20.) Volos (1-11-12-19) 346 klms. (216 mls.). or through Larissa 391 klms. Bus 9 hrs. Largest town of the west coast, pop. 52,000. Hotels Cat A.: Aigli, Palace. Recently confirmed to be Jason's shipbuilding site. Beyond Volos are the many attractive villages on Mount Pelion including **Portar Zagora** and **Horefto** on the seacoast (55 klms.) and Tsangarada further south (pp. 168—9.) Volos is 63 klms south of Larissa.

(21.) Larissa (1-11-12-19). 328 klms (205 mls.) 6.1/2 hrs. By bus 8 hrs Sing. Dr. 90. Served by airport linking it with Athens and Salonica. Pop. 44,000. Prehistoric City on the river Penios. A road junction radiating to Kozani on the present Salonica road, to Katerini which is on the shorter road to Salonica at present being constructed, and to Trikala for the Meteora monasteries. Hotels Cat. B.: Hellas, Olympion, Rex.

Trikala (1-11-12-19-21.) 389 klms (244 mls.) 7.1/2 hrs. Pop. 30,000. By bus 8.1/2 hrs. Sing. Drs. 90. The projected road through Karditsa will shorten the route by some 100 klms. It is to be noted that this is Trikala of Thessaly, not to be confused with that of Corinth County. Site of ancient Trikkis. Byzantine Castle. Hotel Cat. B.: Meteora. Three others.

128. Meteora Monasteries perched sky high on inaccessible rocks

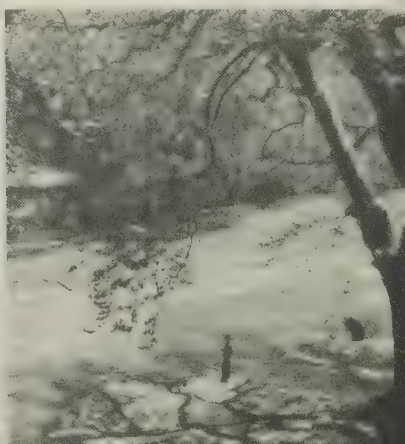
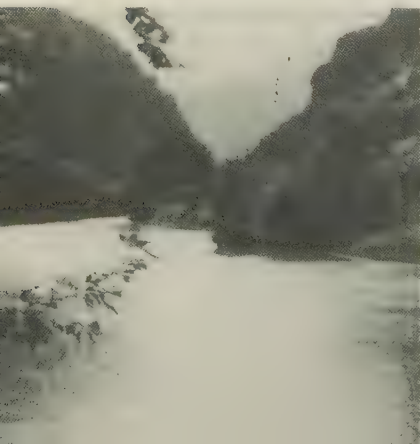


Kalambaka. Pop. about 5,000. 22 klms beyond Trikala on the road to Metsovo is Kalambaka, centre for the monasteries of Meteora.

Meteora Monasteries. 414 klms (259 mls.). 8-9 hrs. These are so called because they are perched ahigh on almost inaccessible mountain heights "like meteors" in the sky. Only few of them are now inhabited by monks, and all that are inhabited are approachable by road. The only means to most of them was previously by a net, or case, lowered by rope, and pulled up by the monks. Population of the rocks started in the 11th century and in the 15th century there were some 14 monasteries, some with rich libraries. The formation of the meteora rocks is quite phantasmagoric, and on a stormy sunset might well appear as Dante's Inferno. A visit to the Meteora is not one of the sights to which tourists are addicted, yet Meteora is one of the most amazing sights of Greece, if not of the world. It is however a long ride, with the present detour through Larissa. The erection of a tourist pavilion (with 20 beds) has made the trip more attractive. Some of the monasteries also run a guest house.

Trikala - Metsovo 84 klms. A visit to Meteora should be followed by a visit to Metsovo (see p. 109) and a round trip back to Athens via Yannina. After Kalambaka the road is most enchanting, along the Penios, (which flows below into the sea through the Vale of Tempe,) and green with wild plane trees. At Hani Mourgani, 33 klms

129 & 130. Entrance to, and gorge of Vale of Tempe¹





131. Castoria, Byzantine City astride a lake isthmus

beyond Trikala, a motor road leads north 90 klms to Kozani and 152 klms in all to Castoria on the lake, or 220 klms to Florina, passing at 200 klms at an elevation of 5000 ft. at Pisoderion, and risky in winter. Continuing on the Metsovo road beyond Hani Mourgani the road soon ascends and 50 klms beyond it reaches an elevation over the Katara pass of 5,500 ft. In winter bulldozers clear the snow and keep the road open.

The North Road : Resuming along the North Road from Larissa it is 142 klms to Kozani which is on the route to **Castoria, Florina, Grevena, Ptolemais** and the frontier leading to Monastir in Yugoslavia. Kozani is on the present route from Athens to Salonica though it is expected that by the summer of 1959 the road from Larissa will follow the Penios river through the Vale of Tempe to Katerini, cutting the Athens-Salonica trajectory by some 100 kls.

(22.) Kozani (1-11-12-19-21). 470 klms (294 mls.). 12 hrs by bus. About 138 klms each from Larissa and Salonica. Pop. 20,000. Served by airport. Hotel Cat. B: Ermionion. 4 others.

Vale of Tempe The new Salonica road enters the Vale some 25 klms beyond Larissa following the north bank of the Pinios as it meanders through the ravine between Mounts Olympus and Ossa. The Vale of Tempe was famous of old for the gentle «zephyrs» which wafted along its course. Today the narrow ravine is covered with wild plane trees, is colourful with oleander and wild flowers, while the many birds and descending brooks complete and idyllic



132. Mount Olympos, abode of the ancient Goddesses and Gods

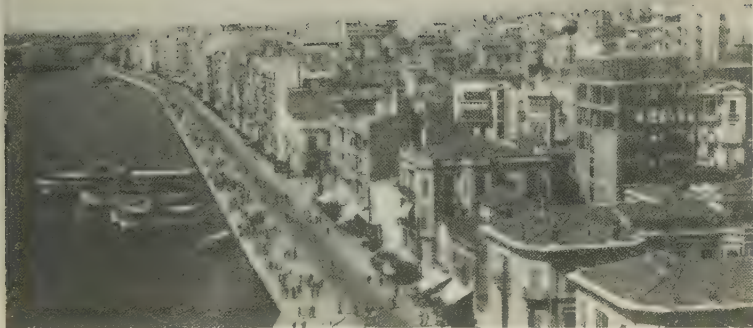
harmony. The Vale is 18 kiloms long, while after a further 20 kiloms it meets the sea. **Katerini**, on this road, 100 klms from Larissa, pop. 30.000 is an overnight stay for the ascent of Mr Olympos, (9.570 ft.) Hotels: Cat. C. Emporikon and Mitropolis. Beyond Kozani there are many interesting places, but these do not normally attract visitors - as yet, and are outside the scope of this book. Of these however :

(23) Castoria. 186 klms from Trikala, and 577 klms from Athens. 89 klms from Kozani. World famed centre of fur trade. Pop. 15,000 Interesting picturesque City built originally by Orestes, son of Agamemnon on an isthmus of its lake. Cat A. Hotel: Du Lac.

(24) Florina 553 klms. Pop. 12,000, Either via Kozani or Edessa, the former being the shorter from Athens.

(25) Edessa 90 klms from Salonica. Pop. 16,000. Ancient capital of Macedonian Kings. Has a famous cataract. Was on the ancient Roman Egnatian road linking Durazzo (and Rome) with Constantinople. The Salonica-Edessa road passes Pella, Alexander the Great's capital at kilm 41 where vestiges were discovered in 1957. Edessa is famous for its annual pageant of flowers.

Pella. Capital of the Macedonian Kings from about 400 B.C. until the Roman occupation in the second cent. B.C. It was only in 1957 that the actual site was confirmed. Already much of great interest has been unearthed of the period of Philip and Alexander the Great, and much more of the Palace remains to be discovered.



133. Thessaloniki. The sea front

THESSALONIKI

(26). Thessaloniki. Known in English as **Salonica**. 596 klms. (373 mls.). By train 10.1/2 hrs, Drs 1st cl. 308. 2nd. 215. By air: 1 hr. 20 mins. Five times a day each way. Drs. 337 Ret. 606. It is the second largest City of Greece with pop. given as 400,000 but the citizens say it is much more. The City was joined to Greece on the 26th Oct. 1912 in the Balkan wars, the day being that of St. Demetrios, the patron Saint of the City. Thessaloniki was founded in 316 B.C. by Cassander, general of Alexander the Great, whose sister, Thessaloniki, was his wife. It is now the capital of Macedonia, though Pella was in those days. In 1917 during the First World War the central part of the City was destroyed by fire with the result that a modern City has since developed. The quay front in the central part of the City is broad, pleasant and separated from the docks, of which part is reserved as a "Free Port". Parallel to the quayside there is a broad avenue, part of the old Egnatian road which linked Rome with Constantinople via Durazzo. This is the present shopping centre, around which new blocks of flats are rapidly rising. The City, however is particularly rich in vestiges of the whole Byzantine period. The new international motorway, already partly constructed, linking Italy with Belgrade, Greece and Istanbul, passes through Salonica.

The climate differs from southern Greece being much colder in winter. The American School of Agriculture has been established in



134. The Egnatian Road. Arch of Galerius, right forefront

the outskirts and renders a signal service to the whole country. Thessaloniki is the only City outside Athens to boast of an University. In 1958 a Festival was sponsored to run concurrently with the Fair in September, with the object of encouraging the City to develop its own artistic character.

Most prominent landmark is the famous White Tower, which divides the waterfront with the quayside to the west and gardens and the old residential district to the east. It is part of the old ramparts of which much is standing. Another landmark is the triumphal arch of Galerius commemorating his victorious campaigns over the Persians in 297 A.D. There are many early basiliscs, though that

135. Vlatadon Convent. 136. The White Tower



of St. Demetrios was reconstructed after the 1917 fire. The Crypt and the Achiropiitos are of the 5th. cent., Saint Sophia of the 8th., the Virgin of Halkeon of the 14th., the Prophet Elias of the 13th., and the 12 Apostles of the 14th., and all are churches worth a visit. Almost hidden two hundred yards to the north of Galerius's arch is the Rotunda of St. George, built in 310 A.D., originally it is said as a mausoleum, but soon became a Christian church. It contains remarkable 10th cent. mosaics. A visit to the small 15th cent. Convent of Vlatadon. close to the upper ramparts gives a fine view of the whole City and bay, and on a fine day, Mount Olympos.

The Salonica Fair, established in 1926 grows in importance every year and is one of the largest, if not the largest in the Balkans. It is held annually throughout September, when, be it noted, hotel accommodation is extremely difficult. Industry as well as agriculture are equally represented, some thousand foreign exhibitors participating. The Fair is comparable to those of far greater Cities of Western Europe. In many sections, and particularly in agricultural machinery the natives need hardly go abroad to make their purchases. Greek handicrafts are also featured.

Salonica Hotels: Cat. A.: Astoria, Mediterranean, Palace, Ritz, and 5 kms from centre, Villa Ritz. Cat B.: Aigaion, Ariston, Cosmopolite, Emborikon, Luxembourg, Modern, Thessalikon, Tourist.

137. A corner of the Salonica Fair

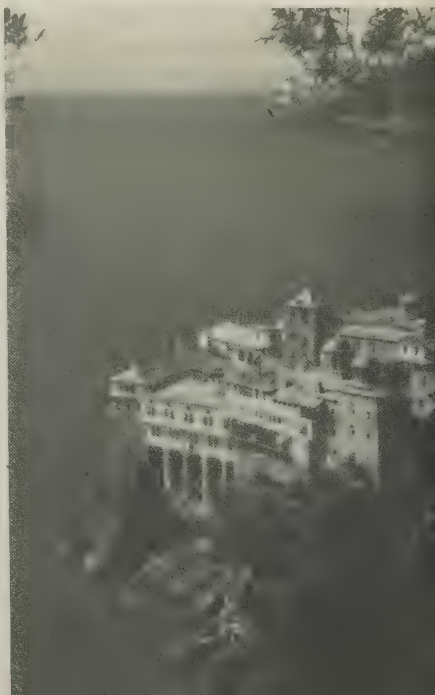


AGHION OROS - THE HOLY MOUNT

MOUNT ATHOS

Where to start about Mount Athos? Why not One Thousand Years ago? That was when the first of the Twenty Monasteries was founded. There was some discussion as to when Athanassios the Atho-nite founded the Monastery of the Greatest Mavra (Megisti Lavra): The Golden Bulls of the Emperor Nikephoros Phocas in the library of the monastery were consulted and it has been confirmed that in 1961 it will be exactly one thousand years ago. The date of 963 A. D. was that of the consecration of the church of the monastery, two years later. Since 961 A.D. twenty major monasteries have been built, most of them of Greek monks, though there are a Russian and Ser-bian monasteries, mostly built shortly after Megisti Lavra. Since that date no woman has set foot on the holy peninsula. The legend says that in heaven Mount Athos was allocated to the Virgin Mary as her property, and she, being of such a jealous nature thus or-dained. Once Mount Athos was inhabited by 15,000 monks To-day there are scarcely more than 2,000. It is part of the Greek State, but with its own Government in its capital Kary-es, composed of a representative of each of the 20 monasteries, of whom four are the overseers. For permission to visit Mount Athos a non-Greek should apply through his Embassy. Permit is readily granted, but may take a few days. Apart from the cruises, approach is via Salonica and motor to the isthmus neck, either side, close to where Xer-xes carved his canal in 490 B.C.

138. Monastery of St. Gregory





139. Most Mt. Athos monasteries have a tower as protection from pirates

130 klms. 4-4 1/2 hrs. The road passes through **Stagira**, birth-place of Aristotle. Mt. Athos is the most amazing and enchanting living anachronism in the world. With the pass obtained at the capital at Karyes the monasteries will welcome you. At the extreme south of the peninsula Mount Athos itself rises majestically out of the sea to a 6,700 ft. peak. The monasteries are large and colourful, the monks hospitable. Their libraries have untold treasures in ancient volumes and manuscripts. Nature is verdant and wild flowers abound. Communication between monasteries is by motor boat, though to a very few by mule But no females! Though very recently, speak it not. some hens have found their way thither.



140. Panteleimon monastery.



141. Stavronikita monastery



142. Cavalla. The busy port of the tobacco trade

MACEDONIA & THRACE

Northern Greece: Macedonia and Thrace, were liberated after the Balkan wars of 1912-13. Since then two world wars intervened and even more serious, the all-out communist attempts of 1947-9 to overpower the country, attempts which finally failed and thrust was diverted from the West, to Korea in the East. Northern Greece has thus scarcely had a chance to develop touristically. It would be idle to pretend that Northern Greece has the magnetic attractions such as Delphi, Olympia, Mycenae, Epidauros, but it would be equally wrong to ignore its attractions, particularly scenically, as also equally regarding historic associations and vestiges. Generally, however, they are beyond the scope of this small guide whose purpose is to help the visitor to Greece who has only limited time.

There are none the less indeed many places of present, and still more so of future attraction for the visitor. Archaeological excavations are starting. Pella, capital of Alexander the Great was, for instance, discovered in 1957. Greek colonies were established even before classical times on the shores of the Chalcidice and Thrace. We need only mention Aristotle, native of Stagira in the Chalcidice, Father of all Science, than whom none can claim to have contributed more in knowledge to the world; the Paionian sculptor of Macedonia whose Victory, now at Olympia, is unsurpassed as a work of art, and Democritos, of ancient Abdera close to the shores of Western Thrace, whose theory of the Atom has only been credited in the last few years.

From Salonica one road radiates west along the old Egnatian Way to Edessa, 91 klms, and Florina, 163 klms. Another leads to the frontier at **Evzoni**, 76 klms with the Yugoslav frontier 3 klms beyond. A further road leads through **Serres**, 94 klms, pop. 40,000 a very ancient city, and on to **Drama**, 165 klms, pop. 35,000, whence the road branches a further 36 klms south to **Cavalla**, or a total of 196 klms, whereas it is 138 klms to Cavalla from the direct more southern road. The new international motorway is to pass between the above two, north of the lakes east of Salonica.

Between Drama and Cavalla lies **Philippi** with interesting ruins and founded by Philip II of Macedon in the 4th century B.C. Philippi is historically famous as the site of the battle where Augustus and Anthony fought Caesar's murderers, Brutus and Cassius. It is equally famous as it was here where St. Paul, who visited the City thrice, baptised Lydia to become the first European Christian.

Cavalla. Pop. 45,000 is the centre of the tobacco export trade, by far the largest item of Greece's exports. Cavalla is served by air from Athens. 1 hr. 35 mins. Sing. Drs. 374. Ret. 674. To the west of Cavalla the Panghaion range rises to 6,500 ft., well wooded and rich in minerals, and of old harbouring the gold mines of the Macedonian Kings. **Xanthi**, 55 klms east of Cavalla, pop. 30,000 is an attractive townlet which is the centre of high class tobacco cultivation. It is a further 50 klms to **Komotini**, a market town of 32,000 pop. only 14 klms south of the Bulgarian frontier.

Alexandroupolis, is 64 klms beyond Komotini. Pop. 20,000 it possesses a good beach and a Cat. A. hotel, the Astir. This last town attracts many Athenians, and visitors to Athens, owing to its reputation as the best duck shooting in Greece. It is served by air. 1 hr. 45 mins. Sing. Drs. 380. Ret. 683.

Alexandroupolis is but a few klms from the Turkish frontier, yet the road to Istanbul now continues 138 klms north to **Kastanies** before it crosses the frontier. The new motorway will branch eastwards 33 klms beyond Alexandroupolis where a new bridge crosses the river Evros.

From Salonica a road runs still further south serving the Chalcidean Chersonese. It is fairly good up to Stagira, 100 klms, while the remaining 30 to **Ierrissos** is scheduled for improvement. It is said a road and hotel are planned for Mount Athos.

VISITING THE ISLES OF GREECE

If you wish to visit even a few of the Aegean, or Ionian Islands, you must have a fair time at your disposal, unless you participate in the cruises organised by the National Tourist Organisation—or have the availability of a yacht. There are so many of the Islands and all of them fascinating, yet few of them have anything like a daily service by sea, and still fewer are served by air. In many cases the ordinary sea journey to any of the islands takes the best part of a day or over, each way. Above all you must be careful to have your schedules correct, especially for the return journey. Do not, for instance, reckon that a ship may leave the Port of Piraeus at a given time and that the trip being of a given duration you will arrive at your destination at about a given hour. Some ships go direct, while others may have a circular journey, either going or returning.

Your stay in an island, other than by cruise, will have to conform to availability of return ships. If you leave, for instance according to schedule (at the time of writing, the Piraeus on Monday evening to visit Santorini (Thera) you will arrive Tuesday morning at 11. a.m., after 18 hours, you may remain 24 hours and pick up a vessel returning on Wednesday at 11.30 a.m. arriving back at the Piraeus at 3. a.m. on Thursday. If, however, you do not leave the Piraeus till next day, leaving at noon on Tuesday, you will arrive at Santorini on Wednesday early morning at 2.30 a.m. Unless you return within the hour by the same ship you will have to wait over 100 hrs till Sunday morning at 9. p.m. arriving at Piraeus at the forsaken hour of 4.30 a.m.

The isles of the Aegean, both the larger such as Crete and Rhodes, and the captivating smaller innumerable ones scattered and floating in the deep blue sea are unparalleled in their peaceful attraction. The Ionian isles whose seas are as blue, but whose character and appearance differ considerably from those of the Aegean, are perhaps more akin to the isles of the Adriatic and of Southern Italy, with Corfu having a pearly atmosphere unmistakably its own. The Isles of the Aegean, though not luscious, have an irresistible charm, a colourful picturesqueness and serene simplicity.



143. Ios. Dainty little isle of the Aegean



144 Corfu. For many, first glimpse of Greece



145 Mykonos. Isle of Windmills and Chapels



146. Andros. White washed chapels

FIVE DAY AEGEAN CRUISES

There is no other way, except by private yacht, of seeing so much of the Aegean islands in such a little time and at so little cost than by the five day Aegean cruises organised by the National Tourist Organization. The Semiramis cruise ship has been made ideal for cruises of a congenial size without being too large to become totally impersonal. The cruises are from early April to mid-October. The itinerary is as follows :

Mon.	dep.	7. p.m.	from	PIRAEUS		
Tues.	arr.	9. a.m.	at	CRETE.	Stay 10 hrs.	Visit Knossos
	dep.	7. p.m.				
Wed.	arr.	9. a.m.	at	RHODES.	» 15 hrs.	Visit Lindos
	dep.	midnight.				
Thur.	arr.	6. a.m.	at	KOS.	» 6 hrs.	
	dep.	noon.				
	arr.	4. p.m.	at	PATMOS.	» 6 hrs.	
	dep.	10. p.m.				
Frid.	arr.	7. a.m.	at	DELOS.	» 5 hrs.	
	dep.	noon.				
	arr.	1 p.m.	at	MYKONOS	» 9 hrs.	
	dep.	10 p.m.				
Sat.	arr.	7 p.m.	at	PIRAEUS.		

Tickets vary very much in price the lowest being \$ 50, the highest \$ 300. Tickets include all expenses of shore excursions.

TWO DAY AEGEAN CRUISES

The two days cruises should be regarded partly in the nature of week end relaxation and partly as an opportunity of visiting some of the islands within reasonable time in comfort. These cruises are arranged for the first three week ends of each month, the first in 1959 being on April 17th and the last on October 17th. The rotation of cruises is as follows: 1st week end, MOUNT ATHOS. 2nd week end, the Isles of THASOS and SAMOTHRACE. The 3rd week end, the isles of THERA (Santorini) and PAROS. Tickets for the two days cruises, which range from \$ 7 to \$ 50 do not include meals. Departures and arrivals are as follows: Mount Athos cruise begins Sat. 1 p.m. and ends Mon. 9.a.m. Thasos-Samothrace cruise begins Sat. 11 a.m. and ends Mon. 2.30 p.m. Thera-Paros cruise begins Sat. 6.30 p.m. and ends Mon. 8. a.m.

JUNE - JULY

THE GREEK NATIONAL THEATRE
presents

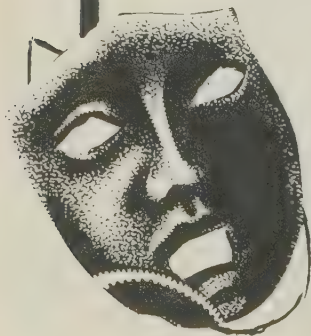
A FESTIVAL OF
ANCIENT DRAMA
AT EPIDAUROS

with plays by

SOPHOCLES - EURIPIDES - ARISTOPHANES

ORGANIZED BY THE
NATIONAL TOURIST ORGANIZATION

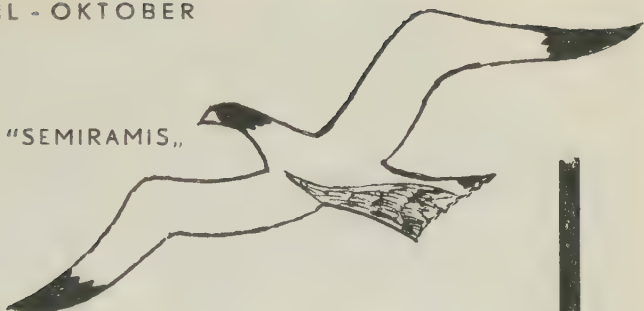
AND THE
HELLENIC TOURING CLUB



The Theatre of Epidaurus, the work of Polyclitus the younger, was built in the 4th century B. C. The beauty of the landscape in which it stands, its perfect acoustics, harmony of architecture and great seating capacity make this theatre the ideal frame for performances of Ancient Drama.

APRIL - OKTOBER

M/V "SEMIRAMIS,,



Monday to Friday
5 day cruises
Saturday to Sunday
week-end cruises

AEGEAN

CRUISES

Crete - Rhodes - Kos

Patmos - Delos - Mykonos

mt. Athos - Thassos - Samothraki

Santorini - Paros

- Luxurious Cabins
- Comfortable Berths
- Spacious Decks
- Bar, Air conditioned Lounges
- Swimming pool
- Courteous Personnel
- Orchestra

Ask your travel agent



147. Rhodes. The Street of the Knights

THE DODECANESE

The Dodecanese, though not always known by this name, which means Twelve Islands, have a very ancient history. Homer mentions their names and their Kings. In 1309 A.D. Rhodes, the principle island, was captured by the crusading Knights of St. John who had the support of the population, but in 1523 the Knights capitulated to the Turks who held the islands till Italy seized them in 1911. After World War II the Dodecanese, whose population ever remained preponderatingly Greek, were joined to the mother country.

Rhodes is the capital and seat of the 'Nomarch' (See page opp.)

Kos (Cos) can be visited on the sea route to and from Rhodes. It has two 'C' class hotels but a tourist hotel is under construction. Kos is the birthplace of Hippocrates, Father of Medicine, and the Plane Tree under which he taught and gave his prescriptions still flourishes. There are standing columns of the Sanctuary of Asklepios. Hotel Cat. B.: Zephyros. 3 others.

Patmos, one of the most colourful isles of the Aegean is famed as the island on which St. John wrote the Apocalypse. Close to the XIth cent. monastery is the cave in which the Evangelist reputedly wrote.

Calymnos is world famous owing to its sponge fishers and divers. Other islands are: **Astypalia**, **Carpathos**, **Cassos**, **Castellorizo**, **Leros**, **Nissyros**, **Symi** and **Tilos**.

R H O D E S T H E I S L E O F R O S E S



B R I D E O F T H E S U N



148 Rhodes. Entrance to harbour

NO PLACE in Greece can better combine the pleasures and comforts of a holiday and yet be so colourful and interesting as the Island of Rhodes and its capital City. It is served by comfortable ships and during the season by several daily flights of Olympic airways which take but 1 hr. 25 mins. Sing. Drs. 460. Ret. 829. Rhodes has many hotels of all classes, appartments, and beach huts. During the summer it is none the less advisable to book in advance.

The population of the City of Rhodes is about 25,000. In pre-classical times, together with the other islands, it commanded the Eastern Mediterranean. Later, in the 3rd Cent. B.C. it had the mightiest fleet of the world. Rhodes is the mediaeval island of the Knights of St. John. In the City there is a huge rampart girt area with a

149. City of Rhodes. The sea front





150 & 151. Lindos. Temples on the Acropolis

central reconstructed magnificent castle which dominates the whole town, and commands the sea. In the old City not only are there quaint and picturesque localities but many buildings of the Crusader days. Outstanding is the Street of the Knights, which leads up to the Castle and on each side of which are the armorial bearings of the doughty warriors of old. On the left, walking upwards are the old halls of the Knights which are now a museum of considerable interest.

Rhodes has fine bathing beaches. The Hotel des Roses on the sea front has its own. Gay umbrellas decorate the beach and sea while sun bathers enjoy summer's sushine as late as mid-October. The scarlet hibiscus, the red and the mauve bougainvillaea brighten the whole of the City, being unusually attractive when they combine with the dark green of cyperissus trees and a background of the patina of old ramparts against a sea which seems of a deeper cobalt than anywhere else in the world. The Rose is the emblem of the island and flourishes better than anywhere else in Greece. Rhodes is named from the Rose, the flower sacred to Apollon, God of the Sun Chariot, and by tradition the island is the Bride of Helios, the ancient Sun God. In the City of Rhodes there is also a Turkish community of a few thousand who livé in full harmony with the Greeks. Hotels are: De Luxe: Des Roses; Cat. A.: Cairo Palace, Thermai; Cat. B.: Pindos, Spartali (new hotel); Cat. C.: Ethnikon, Lindos, Flisvos, Acropole. Mira Mare is a bathing centre with huts some 4 miles from the City. Elaphos and Elaphina are two Cat. A. hotels at 2,500 ft. in the pine forests of Prophet Elias mountain.

There are open air restaurants in the City. The Thermai hotel has an open air dance track. Close to the sea front an open air restaurant with popular prices is the Tourkali.

There are many interesting places outside the City which should be visited either by car or coach. In particular **Lindos** is a 'must'. **Lindos Ialissos**, and **Kamiros** were the three main ancient Cities of the Island of Rhodes and in 408 B.C. united under threat of invasion into one State and built the City of Rhodes.

Lindos has a citadel overlooking the sea from a precipitous cliff, with ruins of classical temples, Byzantine churches and mediaeval ramparts. The surrounding village has quaint houses. There is a good Tourist pavilion as well as a humbler tavern where one can have food from commanding positions over the sea. Lindos is 56 klms (35 mls) from Rhodes City, one hour's drive.

Kamiros nestles on a slope 20 miles from the City. Though it has no fine temples left, it has the laid out ruins of an ancient city

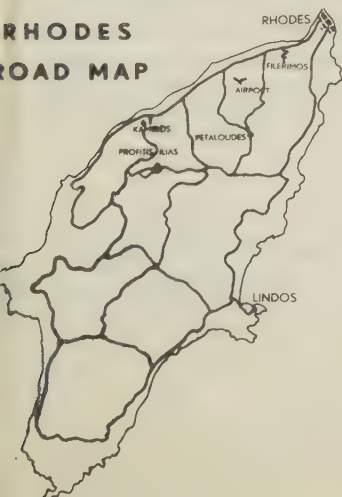
with a fine cobalt blue seascape background. **Philerimos**, the ancient acropolis of Ialysos, at 10 miles from the City is a worth while short excursion. It has a mediaeval convent with a fascinating small Gothic church, and the remains of a temple to Athena. The road to it is partly by the sea and partly among pine tree covered slopes. The country and sea view is superb.

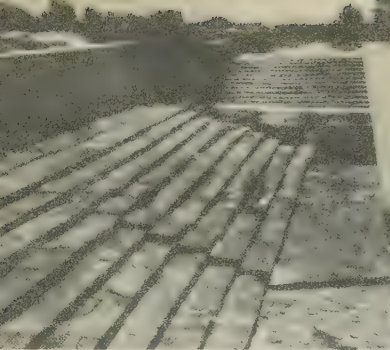
Petaloudes, 15 miles, which in Greek means butterflies, is a valley with a wooded glen where a bright cloud of them flutters in the air. The Nat. Tour. Org. issues (free) an useful brochure on Rhodes.



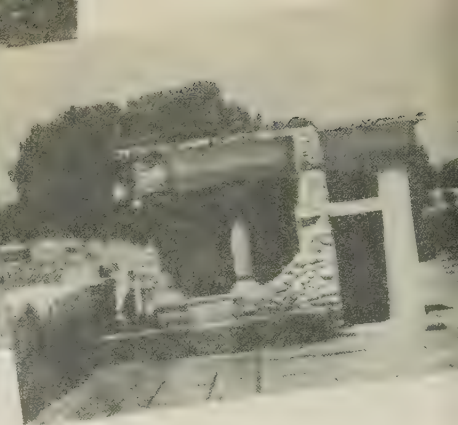
152. Rhodes. The Castle

RHODES ROAD MAP





153. Phaistos. Theatre and steps



154. Knossos. Ablutions bath

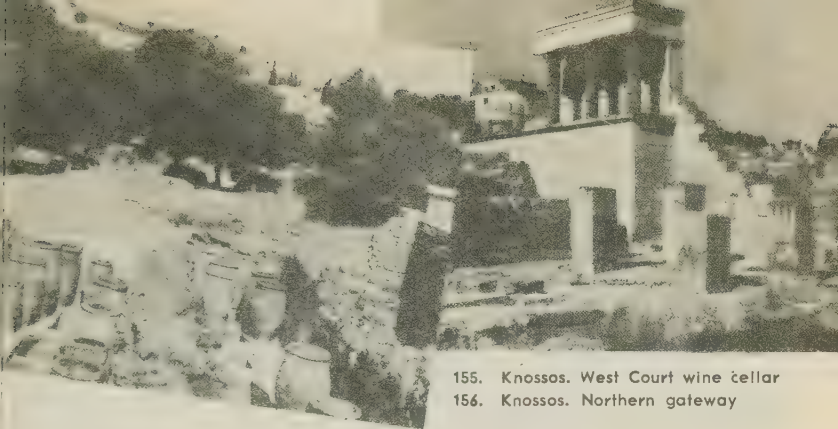
THE ISLAND OF CRETE

CRETE, after long and bitter struggles finally obtained its freedom in 1898 and was united to Greece after the Balkan wars in 1913. The ancient civilization of Crete is the first civilization of Europe, but it is sometimes forgotten that it also was a fount of culture which spread to Europe in the middle ages to create the Italian renaissance. When the invading Ottomans were forcing the Byzantine culture out of Constantinople, it sought refuge joining and enhancing that of Crete. Here epics were written which inspired Dante's Divina Comedia, and Theotocopouli, known as El Greco, was a pioneer in art. In ancient times, after its Minoan civilisation, it became Achaean around 1450-1400 B.C., but by about 1100 B.C. it was captured by the Dorians who founded many independent City States. It would not be far wrong to say that Cretans have maintained their warlike and proud Dorian characteristics.

Travel to Crete.

There are five weekly sailings to Crete, the ships visiting Iraklion.





155. Knossos. West Court wine cellar

156. Knossos. Northern gateway

Rethymnon and Chania, in either order, the first port taking about 12 hours, and a further 8-10 to the last. Fare. 1st class Drs. 231. There are two or more flights a day to both Iraklion. 1 hr 15 mins., Drs. 333. Ret. 598., and to Chania. 1 hr. 10 mins Drs. 282. Ret. 508. Hotels. Iraklion: Cat. A.: Astir B: Candia Palace, Cosmopolite C: Florida, Palladion, Knossos. Chania: Cat. A.: Minoa, B: Kou-kounara. There is a Cat. B., Tourist Pavilion at Phaistos.

Crete being south of the rest of Greece has a more temperate climate cooled by sea breezes, which, in spite of its many high, wild and rugged mountains, make its valleys and high plateaus fertile with orchard and grove of citrus and olive, and abundant vineyards. It is a long thin island the main road of which from Kastelli in the N.W. to Bai in the N.E. is 355 klms (222 mls.). Crete is centred perfectly in the Eastern Mediterranean, out in the deep blue sea.





157. Iraklion. The old Venetian Fort

Chania (Canea) ancient Kydonia, is the administrative capital of the island. Its pop. is 35,000. Six miles to the east lies the magnificent natural bay of **Suda**. Beyond, at 73 klms. (45 mls.) from Chania is **Rethymnos**, an attractive small town of 15,000 pop, while at 151 klms (94 mls.) lies the largest and most important town of:

Iraklion (Herakleion) with a pop. of over 55,000. In 1206 A.D. the Venetians had made it, (under the name of Candia) one of the most strongly fortified cities of the Middle East, and the whole island was called Candia after it. The present main attraction of Iraklion is as a centre for visiting **Knossos**, five kiloms to the south east (see pp 135-6), but a visit to Knossos should be combined with a visit to the Iraklion museum, for it is quite unique in the world as regards Minoan treasures.

From Iraklion a road, of secondary quality, leads south 40 klms to Aghii Deka, the ancient **Gortynos**, capital of Crete in Roman times, where many Doric vestiges of interest have been found, while 15 klms still further, at **Phaistos**, was a city which in Minoan times was second only in importance to Knossos, and the ruins of its palace indicate that it was even finer than that of Knossos.

From Iraklion too, Mount Ida can be visited, motoring 35 klms west to Anoghia, and thence three hours by mule to the cave where Zeus was hidden and nurtured by his mother Rhea, to save him from his father. Eastwards, 95 klms by road from Iraklion, you can reach the Dictaeon cave where tradition says that Zeus was born.

KNOSSOS AND THE MINOANS

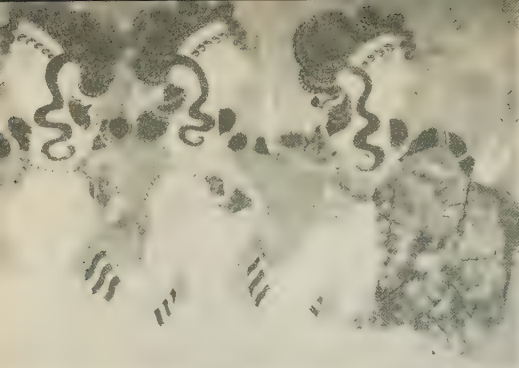
The Minoan civilisation gets its name from the fact that the ruler of Crete was called the Minos, as the King of Egypt was called Pharaoh. The Minoan and the Egyptian civilisations were the earliest and the most highly advanced of the Eastern Mediterranean. It cannot be said which influenced the other the most, but it is clear that Crete influenced Egypt deeply and that its artistic culture was of a remarkably high level, even from present day standards.

Minoan civilisation goes back to 3,000 B.C. and it came to an end with the fall of its main City of Knossos around 1400 B.C. How Knossos fell cannot be certain, but it is known that the Achaeans overran Crete at about that time. The fall of Knossos was dire in its swift calamity and courtiers and soldiers had hardly time to collect their arms or thoughts before swift nemesis was upon them.

Knossos had swift ships and was mistress of the seas, her trade was far and wide, though it would appear that when Knossos fell, the Minoan civilisation had already started to decline. A few years ago evidence was found that Knossos traded with Britain, though it was already known that it possessed amber which it is surmised came from North German shores. This evidence was the discovery when cleaning lichen from the tops of the giant monoliths of Stonehenge

158. General view of the Knossos Palace





159. Iraklion Museum. The Blue Ladies fresco

that the double headed axe, emblem of Knossos, had been incised on several. Priests of Minos must have visited Britain and officiated around the 18th cent. B.C. They were seafaring and loved the sea. Marine subjects figure throughout their art.

The Minoan civilisation was not known until Sir Arthur Evans started his excavations in 1900, and the palace was cleared, and in parts reconstructed. The Palace, which was of two floors, showed an amazing modernity including even sanitary instalation. The high standard of its mural paintings and above all of its ceramics is astonishing. Not only is the quality of its pottery almost that of porcelain but its colouring is equally noteworthy. The Minoans were fond of sport, in which bull riding figures in murals. The myth, very probably founded on historic facts, of Theseus, King of Athens fighting the bull-headed Minotaur monster in the Labyrinth of Knossos, states that the son of the Minos had visited Athens and there participated in athletic contests. Cretan women wore flounced, up-to-date skirts, though some left their breasts bare. The early writing of 2,000 B.C. of the Cretans was hieroglyphic and has not yet been deciphered. The writing of about 1800 B.C. the Linear Script A, has been only partially deciphered, while the Linear Script B of 1600-1300 B.C. has given up many secrets in the last 5 years. Minoan civilisation undoubtedly had a profound influence on that of Mycenae, and in spite of an intervening dark age of several centuries gave the Homeric tradition which flourished into the Glory of Classical Greece.

The Minoan civilisation

160. Knossos Palace. The Throne Room



THE ISLES OF GREECE

«The Isles of Greece

Where Burning Sappho Loved and Sang».

Byron

THE ISLES OF THE AEGEAN

There are various groups of Islands in the Aegean, though normally we first think of the Cyclades group, thus called as they are supposed to form a cycle, or circle around the Sacred Isle of Delos, though Syra is more like the real hub. Another group is that of the Northern Sporades - the scattered or «Sporadic isles», off the coasts of Thessaly and Euboea. To the North there are the two attractive islands of Thasos and Samothrace which lie South of Thrace, and to the East the large Islands close to Asia Minor, that is Lemnos, Lesbos (Mytilene), Chios, Samos and Icaria. Also there are the Dodecanese (see page 128) which were formerly known as the Southern Sporades. Further South lies Crete.

During the early culture of Greece, from the neolithic period, some five thousand years ago, trade was carried on over the whole of the Aegean with the Phoenicians, the Egyptians and the inhabitants of Asia Minor, Cyprus, Crete, and the Peloponnesos. These lands influenced each other. The Greek civilisation, after it emerged from the neolithic period, that is in the early bronze age of around 2700 B.C. onwards, developed along similar lines in the various areas, but with a different rate of progress. The civilisation of Crete is known as the MINOAN, that of the Peloponnesos as the HELLADIC, while that of the Aegean islands is the CYCLADIC.

The isles of the Aegean are picturesque and serene, the people are poor but hospitable, and the alleyways and houses remarkably and spotlessly clean. Early in summer, especially in the more southern of islands, the cooling breezes known as the meltemia set in. There is a charm and fascination about the Aegean Islands which depends on the pellucid atmosphere bathing everything from sunrise, through the meridian to sunset, creating a fairy tale water colouring. The horizon is ever interrupted by island mountains arising out of the sea in softly delineated but rugged outline, as if each is expressing a song of reposeful yearning, yet simultaneously whispering of the lore and tradition with which the whole of the Holy sea, the Aghion Pelagos (or Archipelago) is steeped.



161 & 162. The Cyclades Islands take life peacefully and leisurely

THE CYCLADES

The most interesting (alphabetically) are :

Andros. 6-13 hrs. Famed for its shipowers and sailors. Fairly well wooded and plenty of springs. Mediaeval forts and ramparts. Bathing at Batsi and Gavriou. Hotels B. : Manessi; C. : Kontou. A new tourist hotel is being built.

Delos. One hour by boat from Mykonos. Served by the Semiramis cruises. In ancient days it shared with Delphi and Olympia fame as a panhellenic centre with celebrations on a similar scale. A large section of the ruined City has been excavated, and is often called the Pompeii of Greece. Delos is a very small isle and the ruined City has a completely surrounding seascape. Almost all the ruins are of marble and are of extensive and very considerable interest, including the archaic lions overlooking the sacred lake. The museum has a fine collection. According to legend it was here that Leto gave birth to the twin children of Zeus, Apollon and Artemis. Here too it was that Apollon was worshipped as the Sun God, Phoebus Apollo. After the defeat of the Persians at the beginning of the fifth century B.C. Delos became the centre of the Athenian Confederacy and its treasury safeguarded here. In Hellenistic and Roman times

Delos was a most important trade centre. The tourist Pavilion has a few beds, but it is normal to stay the night at Mykonos.

Ios. Average 16 hrs from Piraeus. One of the smallest isles but one of the most attractive and colourful. Reputed for its beautiful women. Fairly good guest houses are available.

Milos. Shortest passage from Piraeus 9.1/2 hrs. World famous owing to the Aphrodite (Venus) statue in the Louvre Museum which was found here. Its early Christian catacombs are unique in Greece. It has sandy beaches and deep inland bays. Hotel Cat. D. Aphrodite.

Mykonos. Passages from Piraeus between 7 and 12 hrs. Served by Semiramis cruises. Most sought island for summer resort by Athenian society and favoured by artists. It has innumerable small picturesque chapels. Good bathing beach. Hotels: Cat A. Leto; Cat D: Delos, Apollon, Levki Mykonos.

Naxos. 103 miles. 6–15 hrs. The largest of the Cyclades and the isle where Theseus is supposed to have abandoned princess Ariadne. A picturesque island with many excursions and with Mycenaean vestiges at Kastraki, and classical, Byzantine, crusader and Venetian remains elsewhere. Hotel Cat. D.: Pantheon.



163. Santorini. Perched aloft on a volcanic rock

Paros. Average 7 hrs. Served by Semiramis cruises. Famous in antiquity for its marble quarries finest for sculpture. Considered among most attractive of Cyclades and has good beaches. Its early Christian church of the Virgin of the Hundred Doors attracts many pilgrims. Hotel Cat. B.: Meltemi. C.: Pandrossos.

Syros. 6—10 hrs. Its capital city Ermoupolis is the capital of the Cyclades county. Until a generation ago one of the most flourishing ports of Greece. The City is constructed on two hills, one mainly populated by Catholics. Hotels: Cat B.: Ermis, Kykladikon.

Santorini (Ancient name still used: **Thera**). Average 18 hrs. The island of the Cyclades which will create the deepest impression. The townlet is perched high on a volcanic cliff approached by a winding precipitous road. It has suffered much from earthquakes but has been reconstructed. It has excellent dry white wines. The townlet is fantasmagoric and with a superb view. The «Oikos tou Xenou» hotel is small but good.

Tinos. 6—10 hrs. The «Lourdes» of Greece. On August 15th and to a lesser extent on March 25th attracts many thousands of pilgrims.

Other islands. **Amorgos.** Of old famous for its diaphanous tissues, and today its women are reputed to have classical profiles. **Antiparos**, one hour from Paros has a famous cave. **Kea (Zia)** only 13 miles from Sounion. **Kythnos** an attractive isle. Also attractive **Anaphi, Kimolos, Seriphos, Siphnos, Pholegandros.**



164. Paros. Picturesque isle famed for its marble



165. Santorini. An impressionist's dream



166. Andros. Island of sailors and fishermen



167. Samos. Tighani townlet



168. Skiathos. The little haven

THE NORTHERN SPORADES.
Skiathos, Skopelos and Skyros.

Normal approach is by boat from Kymi in Euboea, or Volos. The s/s Halcyon has a tri-weekly round trip service. Skyros is 2.1/4 hrs from Kymi; Skopelos 6.1/2 hrs from either and Skopelos 5 hrs from Volos. The Isles have considerable historic interest and are becoming popular holiday resorts. There are attractive little harbours, and the clear waters appeal to underwater fishermen. Skyros is reputed for its village furniture. Some of the beaches have sands which are almost silvery. The Thetis hotel in Skyros is due to function in summer of 1959. (See page 166).



167. An Alleyway in Paros

THE NORTH AEGEAN : Samothrace. Thassos.

Samothrace. 24 miles from Alexandroupolis. 3 hrs. It is famous for its Mysteries which in late classical times rivalled those of Eleusis. Excavations of interest have been made. Scenic Isle. The Victory at the Louvre originated here. Hotel Cat. B.: Niki.

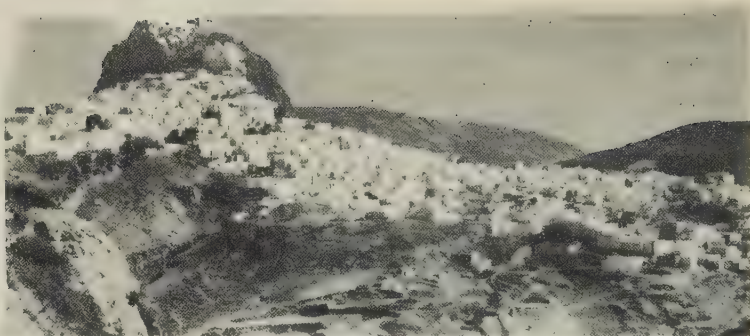
Thassos (Thasos). 16 miles from Cavalla. 2 hrs. Attractive and well worth a visit. Rich in classical remains. You can tour the island by bus. Hotels Cat. B.: Alkyon. Cat. D.: Akropolis, Palladion.

ISLES OF THE EASTERN AEGEAN, close to Asia Minor.

Lemnos. An island of 25,000 pop. but of lesser touristic interest.

Lesbos (Mytilene). 188 miles. 16 hrs. By air 50 mins. Drs. 335. Ret. 602. A large attractive island of 130,000 pop. The City of Mytilene is picturesque. Hotels Cat. B.: Aigion, Rex, Sarlitza (Thermi). Some of the most attractive scenery in Greece, especially Gulf of Yera. Mithimna at 60 klms is worth a visit, the picturesque scene of the Daphne and Chloe legend. Lesbos is the birthplace of the supreme poetess Sappho and of Aesop of the Fables. The island has a mild climate and is cool in summer.

Chios. Pop. 70,000. 165 miles. 11 hrs. It is noted for its fertile soil, its gardens and beautiful landscapes. Chios is but 5 miles from the coast of Asia Minor. Hotels Cat. B.: Pelinaeos, Actaeon.



168. Skyros. General view

Samos. Pop. 50,000. Port of Vathy 175 miles. 15.1/2 hrs. Karlovassi 154 miles. 14 hrs. The port of Vathy is the Capital of the County which includes the Isle of Icaria, Samos can be toured by bus from Vathy. Upper, or Apano Vathy has a fine view. The old capital, the ancient Samos, was situated at Tighani, at 17 klms, and has a small hotel. This was the native City of Pythagoras, one of the greatest philosophers of all times. There is an interesting little museum. The tunnel of Eupalinos, to supply the town with water was a wonder of the ancient world. On the West coast of the island the townlet of Karlovassi is also attractive. In antiquity Samian wine was famous, and is also so today. Hotels: In Vathy. Cat. D.: Poleos. In Karlovassi: Aktaion (at port); Samion.



169. Samos. The old part of Carlovassi

Publication: Summer 1959

By the CAXTON PRINTERS, Ltd, Caldwell Idaho



MEET THE ANCIENT GREEKS

Xenophon Leon Messinesi

MISCELLANEOUS - \$ 5.00

APPROX. 252 PAGES, ILLUSTRATED, LARGE 12mo

As the title indicates this book serves as an introduction to them, giving a balanced description, in plain language, of all aspects of interest: Their antecedents, history, religion, colonies, the Olympic Games, the Oracle at Delphi; their art, culture, architecture, philosophy; their everyday private and public life, how they dressed what they ate the later spread of their culture to the world.

MAVRODAPHNE

THE WORLD FAMOUS
RED SWEET WINE
OF GREECE

Ideal to accompany
Fruit Salad,
Strawberries etc.



ACHAIA FINE OLD MUSCAT

FULL BODIED WITH
A FINE BOUQUET

The best Muscat wine
in the country

When in London visit :

THE LYRIC RESTAURANT

Mr. Niki will give you
his personal attention



French Cuisine
Greek cooking and Wines

50, DEAN ST., SHAFTESBURY AVE. LONDON W. 1

Recommended by the Ambrosia and Nectar Society of Athens



The Hellenic Mediterranean Lines Co. Ltd.

H M L

1929 - 1959

30 YEARS CONTINUOUS SERVICE

**REGULAR SAILINGS
FROM PIRAEUS**

Every Wednestay

For

ALEXANDRIA - LIMASSOL

BEIRUT - PORT SAID

Every Saturday

For

NAPLES - GENOA

MARSEILLES

s.s. AEOLIA - s.s. IONIA - m.s. LYDIA

m.s. MASSALIA - s.s. MEDIA

HEAD OFFICE:

Electric Railway Station Bldg. Piraeus

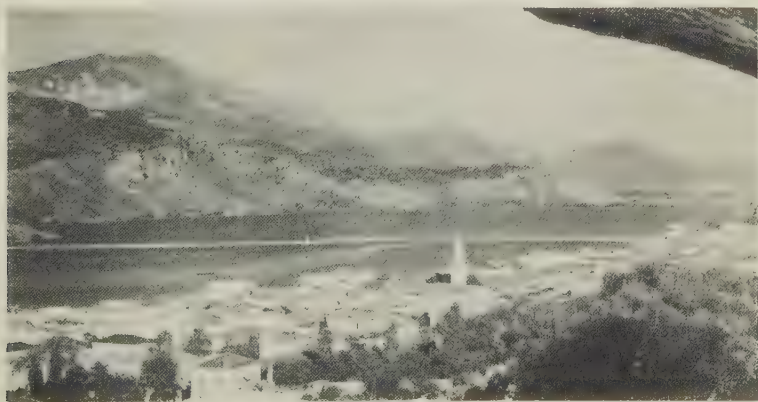
Tel. 474-322, 41-651, 40-636, 42-639

THE IONIAN ISLES

With the exception of Corfu, which is a magnetic tourist attraction, the islands of the Ionian have not been much visited by tourists. This is certainly not because they lack in scenic beauty or interest. The west coast of Greece, and the Ionian Islands have more spring rain than Athens and the east coast, with the result that vegetation is more lush than in the Cyclades. The Island of Ithaca is more arid than most of the others, but it has perhaps more historic interest to compensate it. Cephalonia is the largest with a pop. of about 50,000 and mountains exceeding 5,000 ft, but Corfu overshadows all in touristic attraction and has a pop. of over 100,000.

The history of the islands in more modern times is variegated and complicated. The Islands are known as the Eptanissos, or Seven Isles, though they were not linked together for most of their history.

The islands are: **Kerkyra**, in English known as **Corfu** and in classic times also as **Corcyra**; **Paxos**, which is the smallest (of those reckoned among the seven, for there are several other still smaller ones); **Leucas**, also written **Lefkas**, as pronounced, and of which the name in the past was **Santa Maura**; **Ithaca** or **Ithaki** (as pronounced), of Homeric fame. **Kephalonia**, or in modern Greek **Kephalinia**; also **Zakynthos** which was called by the Venetians **Zante**; finally, and beyond the group, the isle of **Cythera**, or **Kithira**, the mediaeval **Cerigo**, birthplace of Aphrodite.



170. Cephalonia



171. Cephalonia: Village of Assos

Most of the islands had a pre-Mycenaean civilisation, and also many Mycenaean tombs have been discovered. Corfu was colonized by Corinth in the 8th cent., B.C. but Homer describes how before that Odysseus met Nausicaa, daughter of King Alcinoos, and depicts his court in magic that has never been surpassed. Later the islands fell to Rome and in the middle ages suffered from Berber pirates, so that most were glad to place themselves voluntarily under the suzerainty of Venice, Corfu doing so in 1386 A.D. When the might of Venice waned towards the end of the 18th cent. Russia intervened to prevent them falling into Ottoman hands. After shuffling for several years between French, Russian, Ottoman and again French possession, the Seven Islands became the United States of the Ionian Islands as a British Protectorate in 1815. As British possessions they were sometimes governed with wisdom but sometimes with undue harshness, so that in the 1840s the islanders arose in protest. In 1864 on the accession of Prince George of Denmark as the King of the Hellenes, Queen Victoria wisely and generously ceded the islands to the Kingdom of Greece.

In 1953 the islands of Zakynthos, Cephalonia and Ithaki were disastrously shaken by an earthquake with loss of life and vast destruction, but the islanders have courageously rebuilt and reconstructed their homes and villages.

CORFU — KERKYRA

Communications between Athens and Corfu have so improved in the last few years that Corfu has become more popular. Its fascination is such that generally little thought is given to its ancient history. Corfu is not only Nature's show place but ideal for a holiday.

Corfu is but 1 hr. 40 mins by air. Drs. 362. Ret 651. It is now linked by road with Athens through the Igoumenitsa ferry from Epiros and is served by motor coaches, the normal route via Patras being 680 klms (425 mils.). Steamers leave Piraeus daily at 5. p.m. though earlier on Saturdays, but do not sail on Sundays. A Saturday ship that has one stop takes 19 hrs, 1st Class 345 Drs.

Corfu has much akin to the French and Italian riviéras, not only in nature but also in character. The several centuries of Venetian suzerainty and the several later decades of British rule have left their imprint. The character of the houses, arcades and public squares reflect the Venetian days, as also the Corfiots love

172. Corfu. Vlacherna monastery and Mouse Island



of music. The Governor's palace and other buildings, and the existence of a cricket club speak of English days.

The tragic Empress Elizabeth of Austria built her dream Palace in Corfu, the Achilleion, which later Kaiser Wilhelm II of Germany acquired for his summer vacations. The Hellenic Royal Family regularly spends its summer holidays in the Summer Residence, and of recent years European leaders and Royalty from many lands have been their guests in Corfu.

The countryside of Corfu is enchanting. The colouring of Corfu is unmistakable and the lush nature has none the less a pearly transparency. There are many excursions by car and vantage points closer to town. Apart from the twin hillocks of the Venetian fort commanding the harbour, the most famous landmark is the little Pontikonissi islet. According to tradition this little islet, the name of which means Mouse Island, is the petrified ship in which wandering Odysseus (Ulysses) was shipwrecked. Passing through century old olive groves the view point of Kanoni is but 4 klms to the south of the City. Right below and close to the shore are two small islands, the one with the monastery of Vlacherna and the other, Ulysses Island, or Pontikonissi, with a Byzantine chapel nestling in eternal peace between cyperissus trees.

The Achilleion Palace overlooks the sea some 9 klms south of the City. Its situation locality is superb, its taste less so. Palaeocastritzza is the best known of the many attractive localities a little further from the City. It is a Bay 25 klms (15 mls.) on the N.W. coast, overlooked by a Byzantine monastery. In the bay there is a tourist pavilion and an hotel. It is famous for its bathing and for the fine quality of its lobsters. Close by is the famous French Holiday camp, the Méditerranée which has its headquarters in Paris.

There are many colourful festivals, processions and fairs, and the folklore dancing in regional costume is entrancing. Most fairs take place in summer, though the remains, or effigy of Saint Spyridon, a saint to whom Corfiot mariners pray, is perambulated around the town on Palm Sunday, Easter Sunday, August 11th and the first Sunday in November.

Corfu has some fine buildings, and is proud of its esplanade. There are many sporting clubs of all types, and several good restaurants. Hotels Cat. AA.: Corfu Palace. Cat. A.: Astir. Cat. B.: Swiss, St. George, Splendid. There are several hotels in country localities.



173. Corfu. The beach at Palaeocastrizza



174. Corfu. Old street



175. Corfu. Arcaded Esplanade

CEPHALONIA (KEPHALLINIA)

The largest of the Ionian Islands, is fertile, has forests and fine landscapes with mountains of over 5,000 ft. Argostoli, the capital is 17 hrs by ship from Piraeus. 1st class Drs. 230. The island is the native land of many wealthy shipowners. The museum of Argostoli is rich in finds of Mycenaean times. 8 klms from the capital, at Mazarata, there is a huge Mycenaean burial ground in which 83 sepulchres have been found. One of the sights of the Island are the two famous mills worked by sea water close to Argostoli. The water rushes into a natural tunnel, some five feet below sea level without it being explained how it rises again. Hotels at Argostoli: Cat. B.: Aenos. Cat. C.: Dido.

ZAKYNTHOS (ZANTE)

The Italians sang its praises "Zante. Zante. Fior di Levante". The flower of the Near East. It is 13 hrs by ship from Piraeus. 1st class Drs. 202. The Island has about 40,000 pop. and the Capital some 15,000. The City of Zakynthos lies at the foot of a castle, with a fine view. It has Venetian style arcaded streets. It is rich in vegetation and has a mild climate. The island has excursions with fine panoramas. It was populated by Achaeans in pre-Trojan war times. Hotel Cat. B.: Des Fleurs.

ITHACA (ITHAKI).

The island is separated from Cephalonia by a channel. Less fertile than the other Ionian isles but interesting through Homeric accounts of Odysseus, King of the island, and hero of the Odyssey. From Piraeus 14 hrs. 1st class Drs. 202. The capital city is a pretty townlet with less than 3,000 pop.

LEUCAS (LEFKAS or SANTA MAURA)

The island is separated from the mainland by a narrow 6 km canal which will take small steamers. 21 hrs from Piraeus. 1st class Drs. 231. The Isles pop. is about 35,000 and the capital's about 7,000. The island is believed by a few archaeologists to have been the Kingdom of Odysseus, but most archaeologists assert that Ithaca was.

CYTHERA (KITHIRA or CERIGO)

Geographically not really of the Ionian Seas group. A small island with about 10,000 pop. The Milopotamon Cave is an attraction.



176 & 177. Cephalonia. Mill and lighthouse at Argostoli

FEAST DAYS, FAIRS & FESTIVALS

Feast Days play a major role in Greek life. Birthdays are not so important even for children, while the Saint's name day is maintained by grown ups and their whole family. National and Religious Feast days also are most important and the visitor to Greece should take note of them partly because they may be Bank Holidays and partly because many of them are colourful.

Of **Religious festivities** and ceremonies **Easter** is by far the most important, more so than Christmas. **Greek Easter** does not always coincide with Protestant and Catholic Easter week. It is never before, and mostly after. **Good Friday** is kept as a day of mourning and places of entertainment are closed. Good Friday is never celebrated during the period of the full moon. All parish churches hold a Good Friday night procession around the confines of the parish. In Athens the catafalque of the Cathedral is followed by a funeral procession of bishops and the Cabinet, while the route is lined by dense crowds all holding lit candles. On **Saturday** night of Holy week everyone gathers a little before midnight in, or outside their church and just before midnight a priest emerges giving the light of resurrection to the faithful, all of whom have come with wax candles. Light is passed from one to the other. At midnight church bells peal, squibs, rockets and all manner of fireworks are let off, and the throngs go home, with candle alit, to break



Regional Costumes 178. Girl of Arachova. 179. Girl of Epiros

their fast. In Athens an impressive sight is the serpentine of twinkling candle lights descending the zig-zag path from the little church of St. George perched high on the summit of the Lycabettos.

Easter Sunday is a day of joy. Roast lamb is the order of the day, and everywhere there are bright red eggs which the holders crack between them to see who is the winner. Livadia and Arachova are townlets noted for their roast lambs, which are cooked on the spit, if possible over the embers of vine roots Monday after Easter is also a Bank Holiday, and everyone tries to go to the country.

Carnival depends on the date fixed for Easter. It is gay, very gay. Carnival starts ten Sundays before Easter Sunday, and is of three weeks duration. Parties, Dances and Balls take place. Children and grown-ups wear fancy dress. Thursday, eleven days before the end of Carnival is a special day, and during the whole of the last week merriment is in crescendo. During the last week-end Patras has its carnival procession and many Athenians go there for the fun.

Christmas during recent years has been celebrated as joyfully as Easter and Athens is full of vendors of holly and mistletoe, most prolific in berries. Everyone has a Christmas tree. These are imported



180. Village transport is mostly by donkey and mule

from Switzerland or Mount Athos, or made of branches, as it is against the law of forest protection to cut the fir trees. Monday after Christmas is also a Bank Holiday.

National days are: a) **March 25th** which is **Independence Day**. It is a day of school parades and celebrations. It lasts three days, though only the actual day is a Bank Holiday. b) **October 28th** which is **Resistance Day** and known as **OHI day**. In Greek, capital "H" is written "X" with the result the non-Greek press persists in calling it "OXI day pronounced Ohi". Ohi means "NO" as given in 1940 to the Italian demand to invade the country. Military parades take place. Celebrations last three days. Ohi day is a Bank Holiday.

Other Bank Holidays are: **New Years Day** which is **St. Basil's Day**. Next Bank Holiday is **January 6th** which is 12th night or Epiphany. The clergy bless the waters and a cross is thrown into the sea for divers to rescue it. A further Bank Holiday is the Monday after the last Sunday of Carnival and is known as **Clean Monday** being the first day of fasting and all good housewives should clean their pots and pans, though all seek the country, and every child must fly his gaily coloured kite. Monday after Greek Whitsuntide is a Bank Holiday, while the **Day of Saints Peter and Paul** on June 29th is a half holiday, being greeted with a salute of guns as it is the King's Name Day.

August 15th is an especially important religious feast day and Bank Holiday, being that of the **Dormition of the Virgin Mary** (changed centuries ago in Catholic lands to the Assumption of the Virgin Mary). There are many Marys in Greece.



Easter at Arachova. 181. The old men attend to the roast lamb on the spit. 182. The young folk prepare for the dance

Other days of religious consequence, celebrated by countless churches throughout the country dedicated to particular Saints include: **May 21st, Saints Constantine and Helen Day**. Traditionally summer heat is supposed to start on this day, or before, and indoor cinemas close and outdoor life starts.

These feast days have their local or regional celebrations. Most noteworthy is the feast of the Virgin Mary on August 15th when thousands of pilgrims throng the Isle of Tinos, where miracles are reputed. On the following week, August 23rd, similar throngs visit the Monastery of Proussos. **St. Spyridon** is a saint to whom Corfiots pray and **August 11th** is a great day in Corfu. St. Constantine's day has a peculiar festival in two villages of Macedonia, where certain persons, the "anasterides" walk barefooted on red hot embers without their feet being in any way burnt.

The "Trata" or the Fishing Net folklore dance on the Tuesday after Greek Easter takes place at Megara and is colourful. The Women's Lyceum Club sometimes stages folk dances in regional costume, generally around March 25th and these are resplendently attractive. It is claimed that most of the dances are of classical origin. Village weddings, especially in Crete are the occasion for gaiety, and ancient customs.

FESTIVALS: Unique in the world is that of **Epidauros** (P. 82) which has proved so appealing that it is being extended in scope. It is held during weeks of most of June and of July and is an experience which will be a life-time's memory. The **Festival of**



183 & 184. Flower Festivals - Anthestiria are held in May and June especially at Aigion and Edessa

Athens which is held nightly during August and part of September, is also an outstanding experience as the performances are held in the open air ancient theatre of Herodes Atticus on the slopes of the Acropolis, with the flood lit Parthenon looking down on them. As well as the ancient tragedies and comedies of Aristophanes performed in such outstanding manner by the National Theatre Company, there are guest performances of opera or ballet, normally with some Greek theme, given by musicians or institutions of world repute.

The Wine Festival held throughout September and part October at Daphni, 5 miles from Athens, is of quite a different nature but of a very strong appeal. Do not miss it! In its way it is unrivalled. Not only will you enjoy its joviality but there is no better way of seeing how the average Greek enjoys himself after the day's toils and labour is done. Arguments and quarrels evanesce and everyone is friendly. Entrance fee is half a dollar. In the fir tree covered Festival grounds there are tastefully decorated stands with many dozens of barrels of wine from various districts served by selected pretty girls in regional costumes. There you can fill your glass or bottles free, the cost being covered by your entrance. Hot meals are served at help-yourself outdoor taverns, or in the more fashionable central pavilion which overlooks the outdoor dance floor and stage.

It is jolly, gay, and colourful. You will find that in Greece even in such a place, unpleasant inebriation is an extreme rarity.

VILLAGE FOLKLORE AND TRADITION

Through many centuries of vicissitudes Greek tradition and folklore has survived to an extent that is little realised, No doubt, however, much that had remained unchanged for countless generations in the villages perched for security on the slopes of isolating mountains or in secluded valleys is destined to recede into a back-water of reticence. In spite of this there is still a fount brimful of folklore in rural districts, which also permeates the towns.

Popular superstitions which still prevail are often clothed with the individuality of ancient idealism, and over which a Christian assimilation has been cast. The hand of destiny is still more immediately present than the ruling of omnipotence. The spirit of the old pantheism, the dysedaimonia, is still perceptible. The spirit of the ancient dramatists wherein even the Olympian Gods have to bow to Stern Necessity is still innate in the villages today.

In chapels and churches built, as so often is the case, on the foundation of ancient temples, there has been a consistent transference of the attributes of the Pagan divinity to the reversionary Saint. Saint Nicholas invariably replaces Poseidon. St. Dionysios has taken the place of Dionysos. St. Demetrios has inherited the functions of the Goddess Demeter. The Easter festivities with their fast, torch-lit procession and contrasting Easter feast, are reminiscent of the practice inspired by Eleusis to recall the descent of Demeter to the underworld and her joyful return.

The Moirai, or Fates, three in number, and conceived as old women, play an important part in popular superstition, especially after childbirth. Belief in the Evil Eye is widespread. A stain may deliberately be made on a new dress, or a fraction of embroidery left unfinished, lest the deity should resent the owner's pride in them. A curious survival, though fast dying out, is the conviction that supernatural beings, Nereids and Pans, still haunt mountains, springs, ruins and venerable trees. The idea of Charon still survives in the villages. He is called Charos and is an old man sorrowful of countenance riding a black horse. He gathers the spirits of the dead.

To give a negative reply the Greek does not shake his head from side to side, but raises it upwards, as did the ancient Greeks, in opposition to the affirmative reply of a downward not.



185. Feast day regional dancing



186. The September Wine Festival at Daphni



187. Corfu. Evzones of the King's Guard



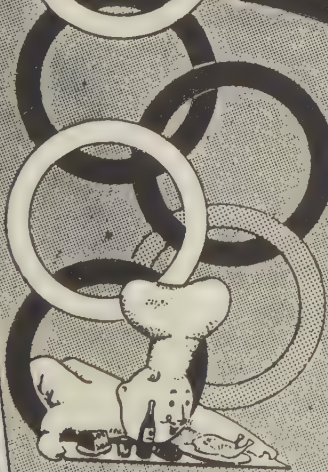
188. Corfu Summer Palace. Cretan Bodyguard.

OLYMPIC AIRWAYS

TO
LONDON
PARIS
ROME
ZURICH
FRANKFURT
CAIRO
TEL AVIV
BEIRUT
NICOSIA
ISTANBUL

with the luxurious
RADAR equipped
SUPER DC-6B's

First and Tourist
Class



*Long-Range Luxury
on Short-Range Flights*



IMPRESSIONS OF TOURISTS FROM THEIR STAY IN GREECE

Thousands of tourists keep pouring into our country. Greek roads, restaurants, recreation centers and, especially, archeological sites, swarm with foreign pilgrims of Greek culture, nature and life.

After spending some days or even months in this country they return home and tell of what they have seen and experienced in Greece, and of how they lived in our country.

The tourist in other words, is the most effective propagandist of Greece abroad. This is why Greek tourism spares no effort to offer to all foreign visitors a pleasant and comfortable stay in Greece.

Many aspects of our life automatically impress the tourist. He is won over by the spontaneous, earnest welcome of the Greek people which confirms the legendary tradition of hospitality of which he, no doubt, has heard.

The Greek kitchen does not leave the tourist indifferent. Some of them come to prefer Greek dishes to their own.

But the Greek beer is what stirs their enthusiasm and their favorable comments more than anything else. Some of them have tasted it already for steadily increasing quantities are exported to the United States, Italy, Africa, etc.

Those who taste it for the first time find it exquisite. It tastes superbly and it is presented in a neat bottle and its quality is a tribute to the industrial progress achieved in this country.

The fact that Greek beer is demanded more than every other brand on passenger ships is an additional proof of its world-wide popularity.

THE ROYAL NATIONAL FOUNDATION AND THE HOTEL VILLAGE

When King Paul, then Crown Prince, was finally forced to leave the country through enemy occupation in World War II, He conceived the formation of an Institution which would care for the ordinary citizen. In 1947, after returning to Greece, King Paul was able to lay the foundation of this Institution, started on an humble voluntary basis. To day the Royal National Foundation is one of the really important factors of the national backbone, yet it carries on unobtrusively, almost entirely by anonymous volunteers.

The Royal National Foundation runs vocational schools throughout the country where tens of thousand have learnt a trade, free, and with the sole obligation that when they have completed their course, they will practice their trade for a given initial period in their native town or village.

THE NATIONAL HEARTH AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The Royal National Foundation also established, a few years ago, the "National Hearth" in a rural scenic setting less than ten miles from Athens. This is a "**Community Development**" training centre, which houses 120 visitors at a time for a three week tuition period. The visitors are invited from the villages of Greece. They are such as the village schoolmaster, the village constable, the rural council clerk, and other similar dignitaries. They are not only given an up-to-date outlook by the very fact of their ex-



189. Community Development. The National Hearth.



190 & 191. Their Majesties know the remotest corners of Greece in all seasons of the year.

emplary surroundings but made to appreciate that the development of the country not only depends on the good example coming from the apex, but also from the solid base which is constituted by themselves.

Thus each one of them learns, in his humble way, that each has his importance and value and contributes to the whole. Nearly ten thousand have now been through the centre, and now there is practically not a village but boasts of some one who has been to the training centre and is able to impart to others something of what he was taught. As well as lectures, practical demonstrations are undertaken in the extensive grounds. The Royal National Foundation welcomes the visit of those who are genuinely interested in Community Development. Its work and scientific study has now reached a level of advanced international interest. Enquiries can be made at the Foundation's Head Office at 9, Philhellenon Street, Athens.

RURAL COMMUNITIES

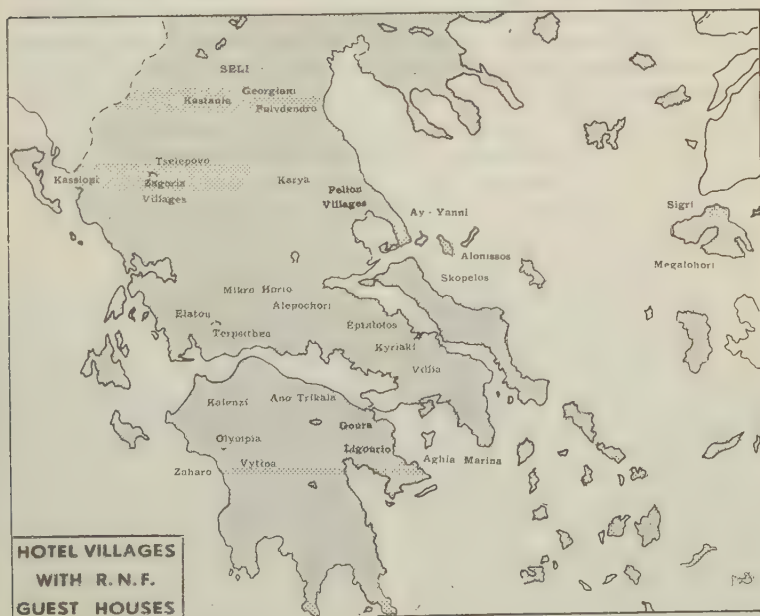
The Foundation is particularly interested in helping villages throughout the country in the promotion of works of betterment. It loans sums on easy terms and interest free for irrigation, water supply, road making, sanitation and other essential needs. Many hundreds of villages have thus been helped. Examples of such works are the roads constructed to the Zagorea villages in Epiros and that to the Proussos monastery. The latter locality was approached by only dangerous precipitous mountain footpaths at some thirty miles from a road-head. The Foundation made a loan for a road, which it is recouping from the timber, which it was previously impossible to transport to market, and was previously valueless.

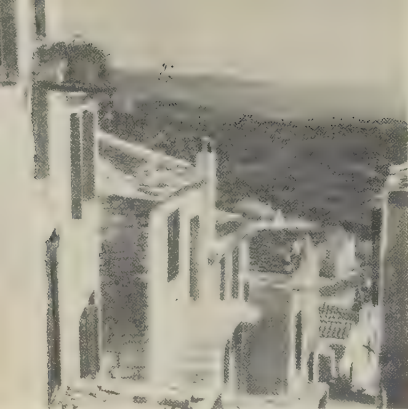
The Foundation believes that the backbone of a nation's tourism should be based primarily on that of its own nationals, and this prompted the idea of the Hotel Village which started in 1956.

THE HOTEL VILLAGE

The Royal National Foundation has helped attractive villages to organise themselves to receive visitors. Suitable, if humble though spotlessly clean rooms are made available at a really reasonable charge. Some three dozen villages have so far thus organised themselves, and there are close on a thousand rooms available with double that amount of beds. They are spread throughout the country, some among the very finest though less known beauty spots. Some are perched high up among the pine forests with distant vistas. Some are on the brink of the sea in the lovely isles of the Aegean or Ionian seas, or on the Saronic Gulf. Seli riding ahigh in Northern Greece can not only receive two hundred guests for winter sports, but with the help of the foundation boasts of a ski-lift.

Furniture for the guest rooms is bought with a loan from the R.N. Foundation. A Committee supervises its good maintenance.





192. Village in Alonissos.



193. Lesbos, Yera Bay.

THE HOTEL VILLAGE IN THE AEGEAN. A) THE SPORADES

Skopelos. The capital of the island of the same name is an attractive little amphitheatrical harbour around which picturesque houses scramble upwards with their balconies bedecked with flowers. The small island boasts of a central 2,000 ft. mountain, while the northern shores have a variety of beaches ideal for bathing and fishing, rivalled only by those of the pine covered eastern coast. The "Tripiti Cave" entered from the sea has its full share of romantic inspiration.

Alonissos. Close to the west coast of Skopelos, is equally enchanting and attractive for a quiet seaside holiday. The little harbour of Patatiri has joined the list of Hotel Villages. Not only are there many fascinating spots to visit on the island, but also small surrounding isles with their own peculiar character and charm.

B) **LESBOS. Sigri.** Below a mediaeval castle the little fishing village of Sigri smiles on the sea. Only a few yards away from the shores of the Bay there is a little isle, Niscope, or Pharos, with all the fascination that is always attached to them. Close to Sigri is the world famous petrified forest of Sequoias, with trunks about 20 foot tall and 25 ft. diameter reflecting many colours.

Megalohori: Offers you its hospitality at a height of over 2000 ft. It has an exhilarating climate and cool springs. 5 miles beyond is the attractive beach of Plomarion. The isle of Lesbos has many scenic spots, and attractive drives.

THE MAINLAND A.) CENTRAL

Alepochori (Doris). This village, the name of which means Fox-Village, rides over three thousand feet ahigh on fir covered slopes, looking over the northern shores of the Gulf of Corinth and at the mighty range of the Panachaicos beyond. The road from Athens passes through Delphi. It is connected by motor road with attractive neighbouring villages while the Cave of Tourkaki has romantic associations.

Eptalofos. This village, the name of which means Seven hills was formerly known as Apano, or Upper Aghoriani, lies on a broad slope of north western Parnassos. It lies over 3000 ft high and 114 miles from Athens. At night the motor lights on the main north road can be seen crawling and hiding ten miles away. In daytime this bucolic haven welcomes you all the year round.

Terpsithea and **Elatou**. The former means "Bellevue" and the latter "Fir-wooded". They lie on a branch road from the Delphi-Naupactos highway a little beyond Alepochori. Terpsithea lies at an altitude of some 2,500 ft and some eight miles from the main road, while Elatou is three miles beyond at an altitude of 3,200 ft. in a fir forest from which it derives its name. Above the villages is an elevated plateau of quite unusual panoramic attraction and from which even distant Mt. Olympos can be seen. The climate is healthy.

Mikro Horio. Perched 2,800 ft in the heart of the mainland of Greece this "Little Village", which is the meaning of its name, is at 10 miles from Karpenissi on a main motoring road, in alpine countryside acknowledged to be among the most attractive in Greece.

194 & 195. Up hill and down dale there are hotel villages.





Pelion : 196. A wooded glade. 197. A village.

Villia, as well as attractions, has many advantages. It is a town-let of some 3,000 souls about 33 miles from Athens, and about an hour and a half or under from the Capital or less than two hours by motor bus. Villia itself is colourful with flowered verandahs. It lies on the outer slopes of Mount Kitheron, abode of old of the Muses, and an attraction to mountaineers. Ten miles distant, 1500 feet below is the inlet of Porto Germeno, simple and captivatingly enchanting with a bathing beach and several taverns which offer enticing food on the brink of the bluest of seas.

Kyriaki or **Kyriakion**. Like Villia it lies on the slopes of Mt. Kitheron where but nestles at double its height that is at over 2500 ft. There are many pleasant paths among the fir woods. It is but five miles from the Monastery of Ossios Loukas with its wonderful mosaics.

THE MAINLAND . B.) THESSALY

Karya on the outer and lower slopes of Mt. Olympos, lies 3,000 ft up on the road which joins Ellasson to the sea, 18 miles distant. Above is the legendary spot where the Titans lived who wished to storm the Olympian abodes of the Gods. The famed cave of Hippocrene is not far distant, and there are neighbouring old monasteries close by. An afternoon bus links Larissa to Ellasson and thence Karya.

Pelion is the district and mountain along the strip of land to the East of Volos and on the slopes and shores of which some of Greece's most smiling villages have chosen to roost.

Zagora and **Tsangarades** are two of the Pelion villages which have become Hotel Villages in the well wooded lands where the Argonauts of old obtained their timber to build their ships. The villa-



198. Storks visit Northern Greece in Spring.

ges are at an elevation of about 1300 ft. on the eastern slopes of Pelion and gaze at the island dotted blue of the Aegean. Most of the houses are surrounded by gardens and orchards of apple and groves of citrus, chestnut, olive and hazelnut. There are many Byzantine remains in the neighbourhood. The seacost village of Horefto is but five miles from Zaghora.

Ay - Yanni (Aghios Ioannis, St. John). A seacost village of the Pelion district, unusually verdant for Greece. Close to the other Pelion Hotel villages, and thus offers the opportunity for a part stay here and a part stay on the mountain slopes above.

THE MAINLAND C.) MACEDONIA

Polydendro is an attractive village of semi-oriental appearance, 14 miles bus ride south of Verria. The road crosses the river Aliakmon and then ascends 2,500 ft to where it rests amid a forest of wild chestnut and ilex. It centres many excursions including Vergia, the ancient Valla, and the ascent of Mt. Pierion (6000 ft.).

Kastania, Georgiani and Rodohori these three villages of Western Macedonia are, like Polydendri, not far distant from Verria. Kastania 11 miles to the south is at altitude of 2700 ft. It is green in summer with apple, chestnut, walnut willow and beach, and couched in snow in winter. Georgiani, closer to Verria and at a lower level is a serene village mostly of new houses. Rodohori 10 miles from Naoussa is approached by a new forest road at an altitude of 2,000 ft. The roofs of its houses emerge from their leafy surroundings, while cherry, peach, pear and quince trees abound in the village.

The **Monastery of Soumela** 300 ft above Kastania on its outskirts, claims to have a genuine icon painted by St. Luke. Close to it is a guest house, and the monastery as well as its hospitality can offer a fine view over the distant sea.

THE MAINLAND

D.) EPIROS

The Zagoria Villages : Aristi, Dhikofto, Kipi, Monodendhri, Aghia Paraskevi, Papingos and Tselepovo. North of the thrilling City of Yannina, of Ali Pasha fame, there are 46 villages hidden among the Epirote summits of the Pindos range. Until recently they were almost legendary, but now, not only has the R.N. Foundation contributed in making a motor road but has arranged for some of the villages to become Hotel Villages. Some of the scenery is unusual and even unique. The Byzantine bridge which joins the two precipitous rocks and also marks the limits of the Zaghoria villages is breathtaking in its wild appeal. The Vikos river traverses the Zaghoria for some fifteen miles between a three thousand feet chasm and is appropriately called the Greek Grand Canyon. The above villages, of which Tselepovo is the capital offer 350 guest beds.

THE IONIAN ISLES

Kassiopi. In the isle of Corfu, and 22 miles north of the City. At present the only Hotel Village in the enchanting isle of Princess Nausicaa. The village lies tranquilly facing the sea while from above a Venetian castle with five ancient guns guards its peace.

THE SARONIC GULF

Aegina. Aghia Marina Beach 12 Nautical miles from Piraeus you are welcomed into the harbour of Aegina by the picturesque diminutive church of St. Nicholas, thence a ten mile drive takes you to the hotel village and beach. To be lucky, book early.

Goura : 199. The village spring. 200. A guest house.



THE PELOPONNESOS

Goura lies on the eastern slopes of Mt. Ziria, second highest mountain of the Peloponnesos, best known as one of the most famous winter sports centres of the country. It is reached by branching inland 15 miles beyond Corinth for 40 miles along a route that passes by Lake Stymphalia and winds among panoramic views to 3000 ft. The plain of the Pheneos is steeped in ancient legend, and here it was that the nymphs bathed the newborn Hermes, and here it was that Heracles was buried. There are many excursions including the summit of Mt. Ziria (8000 ft.) which can be reached within 150 ft by mule ride.

Kalenzi (of Achaia) is a delectable village clambering on the slopes of Mt. Erymanthos 32 miles south of Patras. It lies happily below a crown of pine trees and has a broad view over valley mountains and seascape from an altitude of 3500 ft. The lower part of the village is generously sprinkled with plane trees and terraces. Mt. Erymanthos (7300 ft) takes 2.1/2 hrs to the highest peak. The hospitable and picturesque Monastery of All Saints takes 1.1/2 hrs.

Vytina lies 3000 ft' up on the slopes of Mt. Mainalon on the road from Tripoli to Olympia. It is in Arcadia of the glens and dales and many springs. On the site of ancient Methydrios it has a particular dry, exhilarating and healthy climate.

Ligourio. An elongated village on the main road from Nauplion to the sanctuary of Asklepios at Epidauros from which it lies at a distance of 2-3 miles. It is a happy typical village of Argolis which attracts many for the mid-summer Festival at the famous theatre

Ano Trikala (Upper Trikala). This village lying at 3500 ft on the slopes of mighty Mt. Ziria has a distant view over the Gulf of Corinth. At 2.1/2-3 hours motor ride from Athens it is scenic in summer and a noted centre of winter sports in winter.

Olympia. One of the holiest sites of ancient Greece is also one of the most peaceful. Spring flowers find their glory in the smiling valley. A stay at the Hotel village of Olympia is an ideal combination of intellectual pleasure and a reposeful holiday.

Zaharo. On the West coast, a leafy village close to the famous Spa and mineral springs of Kaiafa, and not far from Olympia, those who go for the waters and cure of Kaiafa choose Zaharo for their



Seli. 201. The village slumbers.

WINTER SPORTS AT SELI

Not far from the other West Macedonian villages, Seli invites you to Mt. Vermion as soon as the year has turned, or later if you wish to enjoy winter sports. Seli is a summer village of shepherds who take their flocks below to the valleys during the snow-bound months. Now, since World War II, with the help of the Foundation the locals have converted their summer quarters into a winter sports centre where two hundred or more can be quartered at a time, simply, and in warmth. The pride of the village is the ski-lift which the Foundation enabled them to erect, and for which the Foundation has a soft spot for it was not only one of the early efforts for the betterment of Greek villages, but also one of its early enterprises into the realm of tourism. It has given encouragement to winter sports so that now, as well as Ziria in the Peloponnesos other spots in the country are to be prepared for devotees of skiing, even it is said on the slopes of Mount Parnassos, and many other well known beauty spots.

202. The Ski - Lift.





OLYMPIC CRUISES S/A



THE LUXURIOUS SISTER SHIPS

T/SS "AGAMEMNON,,

T/ SS "ACHILLEUS"

REGULAR SERVICE BETWEEN PIRAEUS AND VENICE - BRINDISI
MARSEILLES - GENOA - EGYPT - LEBANON - CYPRUS

Tickets - Information : SEE YOUR TRAVEL AGENT

Head Office : OLYMPIC CRUISES S. A.

27, Akti Miaouli - PIRAEUS - Phones 474.491 - 470.895





Photograph by Athens Piraeus Electricity Co.

WHEN VISITING GREECE

YOU SHOULD PREFER
THE BEST GREEK

TABLE WINES



SANTA ELENA (White)

ATTICA (White)

CASTEL DANIELS (Red)

DEMESTICA (White or red)

Where to stay when you visit Cyprus:

THE NICOSIA PALACE HOTEL

NEXT TO METAXAS SQUARE - NICOSIA

Guarantees you a most cordial reception

Menus are prepared to serve individual tastes.

Telegrams :

PALAHOTEL,, Nicosia

Telephone :

Nicosia 37-18

CH. SYNODINOS

7 LEKA STREET

(One minute from Syntagma Square, Close to Ermou Street)

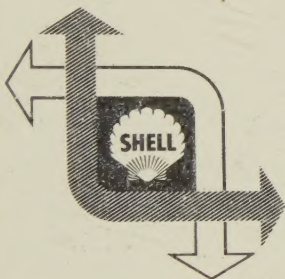
**PRINTERS OF THIS BOOK
ARE AT YOUR SERVICE**

for any and all of your printing requirements
**FROM VISITING CARDS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS TO ANY VOLUMES, BOOKS MAGAZINES OR PAMPHLETS
FINE PRINTERS**

Visiting Greece is issued by ;

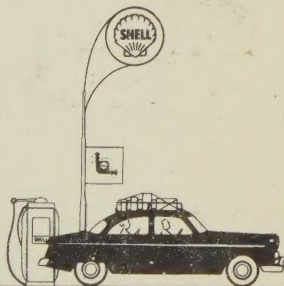
VASSO TSIMBIDAROS & X. L. MESSINESI

SHELL TOURING SERVICE



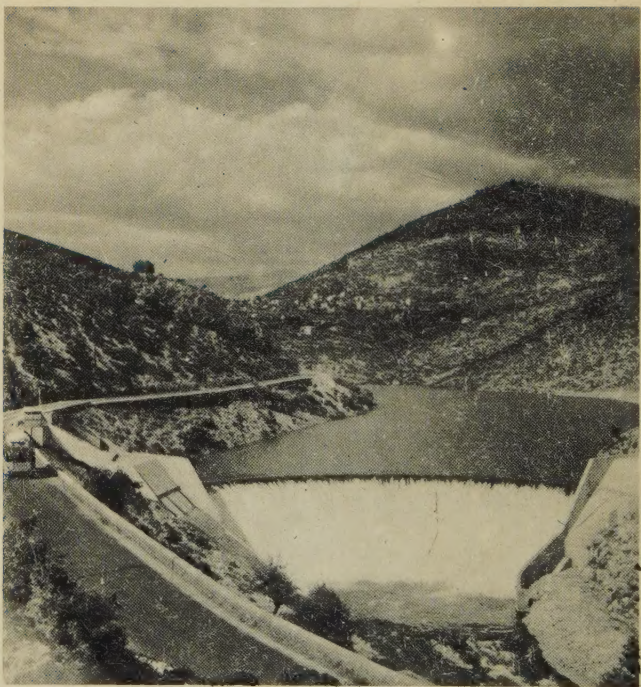
Motorists
all over the world
rely on the high
quality of Shell products
for the comfort
and security
of their journey.

A complete network
of Shell Stations
ensures prompt and
courteous service
throughout Greece.



Bon voyage

POWER AND BEAUTY



LOUROS POWER DAM

The new power dams, hydroelectric stations and steam - electric stations, constructed by the PUBLIC POWER CORPORATION, are the basis of the economic development. They produce electric energy for industrial, agricultural and residential application. Most of these projects have brought about interesting transformations of the landscape. They are by themselves, beautiful sites with tourist accommodations.